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WILSON

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shaped her writing*

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Letter from the EDITOR



Welcome to the September issue of *Richmond & Barnes resident*. Timing is always a little odd working in magazine publishing; as I write this welcome, summer is in full flow but we've been working on all things autumn/ winter, including sampling a delivery of mince pies from Gail's bakery (which, incidentally, were superb).

We're excited about the return of Open House London, an annual celebration of London's architecture in which notable buildings that are not normally open to the public will be accessible over one carefully planned weekend. To find out which buildings are taking part locally turn to page 8.

Another exciting event on the horizon this September is Write on Kew, the first literary event to be held at Kew Gardens. With a host of well-known authors on the bill, we were delighted to secure an exclusive interview with children's author and Kingston resident Jacqueline Wilson. Turn to page 18 to find out what she loves about living locally and which authors she's looking forward to seeing at Write on Kew.

Also in this issue, we caught up with Sean Holmes, the artistic director of Lyric Hammersmith, to find out what he has in store for Hammersmith's legendary theatre. If the recent production of *Bugsy Malone* is anything to go by, the future's bright at the Lyric. Read Will Gore's interview with Sean on page 22.

I hope you enjoy the issue.

Lorraine

Lorraine Crighton-Smith
Editor, *Richmond & Barnes resident*

local feature

READ ALL ABOUT IT

Children's author Jacqueline Wilson on why she's looking forward to appearing at *Write on Kew* and her literary festival

by Will Gore

Did you know that Jacqueline Wilson, the author of *Queen Bees & Wannabes*, is coming to Richmond & Barnes resident's *Write on Kew* festival? Well, she is. And she's not just coming to read, she's coming to talk about her life as a writer and her love of the local area. Wilson, who has written over 50 books for children, is one of the most successful children's authors in the world. She's also a keen supporter of the arts and has been involved in many literary festivals. This time, she's coming to Richmond & Barnes resident's *Write on Kew* festival, which is taking place on September 13th and 14th at Kew Gardens. Wilson will be reading from her latest book, *The Girl on the Train*, and talking about her life as a writer. She'll also be signing books and meeting fans. So, if you're a fan of Wilson's work, don't miss this opportunity to meet her in person.

Right to read Wilson is a prolific writer, with over 50 books to her name. Her books have been translated into over 30 languages and have won many awards. She's also been involved in many literary festivals, including the Edinburgh International Book Festival and the Hay Festival. This time, she's coming to Richmond & Barnes resident's *Write on Kew* festival, which is taking place on September 13th and 14th at Kew Gardens. Wilson will be reading from her latest book, *The Girl on the Train*, and talking about her life as a writer. She'll also be signing books and meeting fans. So, if you're a fan of Wilson's work, don't miss this opportunity to meet her in person.



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Children's author Jacqueline Wilson on why she's looking forward to *Write on Kew*, pg 18

Tom Parker Bowles talks home comforts, pg 47

TOM PARKER BOWLES

Australia has iron me over, but there's no place like home

Australia has iron me over, but there's no place like home. Tom Parker Bowles, the author of *The Good Cook*, is a man who knows his home comforts. He's a man who has lived in many different countries, but he's always found his way back to his home in London. In his new book, *The Good Cook*, he talks about his love of cooking and his home. He's a man who knows his home comforts, and he's always found his way back to his home in London. In his new book, *The Good Cook*, he talks about his love of cooking and his home. He's a man who knows his home comforts, and he's always found his way back to his home in London. In his new book, *The Good Cook*, he talks about his love of cooking and his home.



Don't miss our new sofas special, pg 36

EDITOR'S CHOICE: LOCAL HOME COMFORTS

Local scene Wilson is a prolific writer, with over 50 books to her name. Her books have been translated into over 30 languages and have won many awards. She's also been involved in many literary festivals, including the Edinburgh International Book Festival and the Hay Festival. This time, she's coming to Richmond & Barnes resident's *Write on Kew* festival, which is taking place on September 13th and 14th at Kew Gardens. Wilson will be reading from her latest book, *The Girl on the Train*, and talking about her life as a writer. She'll also be signing books and meeting fans. So, if you're a fan of Wilson's work, don't miss this opportunity to meet her in person.

ACCESS ALL AREAS

*Visit these spectacular private properties during
Open House London, from 19-20 September*



Historical houses

The White House

A Louis XVI palace set within private gardens in Ealing that was built to recreate a palace in Poland owned by the owner's grandmother. The 'Marble Arch' entrance is the first in London for 200 years. Inside, you'll see opulent interiors with marble, gold cornices and chandeliers.

Park View Road, Ealing W5 2JB

Pitzhanger Manor House

This former country residence designed by Sir John Soane is set in the grounds of Walpole Park. The Grade-I listed building expresses John's idiosyncratic architectural style with its stripped back classical detail, radical colour schemes and inventive use of space and light.

Walpole Park, Mattock Lane, Ealing W5 5EQ

Garrick's Temple to Shakespeare, Hampton

This octagonal garden building was designed by actor David Garrick to celebrate the works of William Shakespeare in 1756. Set within a restored 18th century garden by the Thames.

Hampton Court Road, Hampton TW12 2EN

Pope's Grotto and Radnor House School

The Grotto, now owned by Radnor House School, is the last remaining part of 18th Century poet Alexander Pope's villa built in 1720, demolished in 1808 (and since redeveloped).

Pope's Villa, Cross Deep, Twickenham TW1 4QG

Ham House and Garden

Built in 1610 for a Knight Marshall of James I, Ham House was greatly extended in the 1670s. One of a series of grand houses and palaces built along the Thames, Ham House and Garden is an unusual complete C17 survival.

Ham St, Richmond-upon-Thames TW10 7RS

William Morris Society, Kelmscott House

The William Morris Society is celebrating its Diamond Jubilee this year. The Society's premises are in the coach house and basement but Kelmscott House itself is privately owned and not usually open to the public. It was the residence of Sir Francis Ronalds, George MacDonald and (from 1878-96) textile designer William Morris.

26 Upper Mall, Hammersmith W6 9TA





From left:
Garrick's Temple to
Shakespeare; Ham
House; Style Council



— Residential properties —

Style Council

A former post WW1 council house in Barnes has been transformed into a contemporary, energy efficient home named 'Style Council'. Set on a large, south-facing corner plot the property has been extended and completely re-planned to allow natural light to flood in and to create open spaces for multi-generational family living. Check out the suspended 'musical' staircase.

46 Barnes Avenue, Barnes SW13 9AB

Brackenbury Road

This Hammersmith townhouse celebrates the story of a family of drapers who lived in the building 100 years ago, explored through architecture and textile installations.

Brackenbury Road, Hammersmith W6

Sterndale Road

A new entry this year is a fully refurbished period home complete with new basement extension. It's a great example of period character meeting contemporary design through clever use of light, colour and texture.

79 Sterndale Road, Brook Green W14 0HX

Kew House

A contemporary family home formed of two weathering steel volumes inserted behind the retained facade of a C19 brick stables, set within a conservation area near Kew Gardens.

10 Cambridge Road, Kew TW9 3JB

The Cedars (Span House)

The Cedars is an example of a T2 house by Span Developments with Eric Lyons, which is famous for its forward-looking housing of the '50s and typified by modernist lines, good internal planning and communal gardens. A 'Mondrian' primary colour scheme makes this property stand out.

2 The Cedars, Teddington TW11 0AX

Tin House

Another new entry to Open House London this year is Tin House, which made efficient use of an irregular urban site. This house is made up of interconnecting pavilions arranged to define a serene private courtyard.

2 Smugglers Yard, Devenport Road W12 8JA

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From left: St Mary's Convent; St Mary Magdalene



— Religious Buildings —

St Mary's Convent

An 18th century Convent in a Grade-II listed house with original features in Brentford's The Butts. Various additions include the west wing (1913-15) and harmonious care home facilities and chapel by PRP Architects (1998-2001).

10 The Butts, Brentford TW8 8BQ

Ealing Abbey

Building began in 1897 and a century later is almost completed. Architects include F and E Walters (1897, the nave), Stanley Kerr Bates (1960, transepts), and Sir William Whitfield (1997, choir and apse).

Charlbury Grove, Ealing W5 2DY

Parish Church of St Anne

A Grade-II listed church on Kew Green that was originally built as a chapel under the patronage of Queen Anne in 1714 and later enlarged. At the Parish Church of St Anne there are many notable memorials, including that of scientist William Jackson Hooker and the tombs of Thomas Gainsborough and Johan Zoffany.

Kew Green, Kew TW9 3AA

All Hallows Parish Church

This tall Twickenham tower is a City of London church, which was previously located in Lombard Street. It moved to its present site, on Chertsey Road, in 1940.

Chertsey Road, Twickenham TW1 1EW

St Mary Magdalene

A historic living parish church, progressively shaped from the Tudor to the Edwardian period. Newly restored windows recapture the original airiness of the eighteenth-century nave.

Paradise Road, Richmond TW9 1SN

Temple Lodge

This Georgian-listed building was once the studio of artist Sir Frank Brangwyn. It has recently been redeveloped into a Christian church for the yet retains many of its original features.

51 Queen Caroline St, Hammersmith W6 9QL

For full details and booking details please visit openhouselondon.org.uk

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ARENA

{THE FINEST EVENTS IN LONDON THIS MONTH }



THE BEST OF TV, RADIO AND BOOKS

Don't miss the Radio Times Festival at Hampton Court Palace

Discover the inside story about your favourite television and radio shows from top broadcasting names and famous writers at the inaugural Radio Times Festival, which is heading to Hampton Court Palace 24–27 September. Names already announced on the line-up include: Sir David Attenborough, Sir Bruce Forsyth, Paul Hollywood, David Walliams, Russell T Davies, Shaun The Sheep, Gogglebox, Poldark, Dom Joly and Lynda La Plante. Pop-up food stalls and a boutique shopping village will also keep festival goers entertained.

The Green at Hampton Court Palace. Box Office: 0871 2305 539; radiotimesfestival.com

Golden opportunity

The London Art Studies, a collection of inspiring, short and educational art courses and lectures, are exploring haute couture for the first time on 17 September at the Bulgari Hotel, Knightsbridge. Discovering some of the most momentous and celebrated collections in fashion history, this lecture looks into the era regarded as the 'Golden Age'.

For further information, visit londonartstudies.com



Models posing in Christian Dior

BLOOD BROTHERS RETURNS

Blood Brothers, the unmissable multi-award-winning play, written by Willy Russell, returns for a limited run of five days at New Wimbledon Theatre from 8 to 12 September.

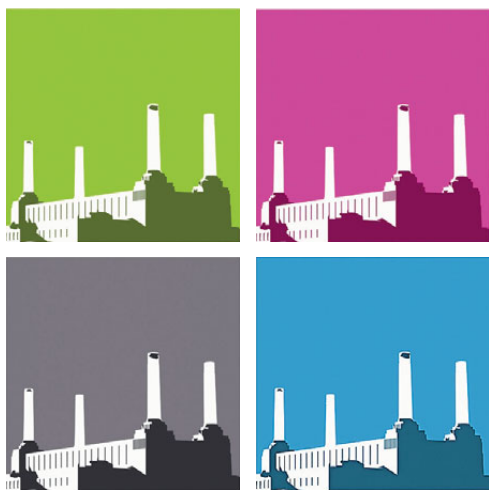
Maureen Nolan will reprise her role as the tragic Mrs Johnstone, while Marti Pellow is back by popular demand to continue his role as Narrator.

To book see atgtickets.com



Online

See more September events at theresident.co.uk



POWER ART

This month, Battersea Power Station Development Company is hosting an open weekend at Battersea Arts Centre to showcase art inspired by the power station. The free exhibition will be open to the public at BAC from Friday 25 to Sunday 27 September 2015, 10am-5pm. Lavender Hill SW11 5TN



The Night the Sky Exploded, by Kris Williams

Photo magic

Searing hot loops of plasma radiating from the edge of the Sun; star trails illuminating the night sky over a camper-lit Green Lake in the Hoover Wilderness of California; Comet Lovejoy sailing through the solar system in a green haze... The Insight Astronomy Photographer of the Year 2015, run by the Royal Observatory Greenwich, looks to be the most keenly contested yet. The awards are announced on 17 September, with an exhibition of winning images opening on 18 September.

See rmg.co.uk

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A legend returns to London

Marking the 100 year anniversary since his birth, the legendary Frank Sinatra has returned to the same stage where he made his UK debut appearance 65 years ago at the London Palladium. A celebration of the entertainer's life, the show is a multi-media concert with rare video footage of the singer. Instead of featuring a nimble impersonator, the show, in the words of his daughter Nancy, is 'Frank doing Frank'. Add in a thrilling 24-piece orchestra and an impressive cast of dancers, together with show-stopping tunes including New York, Blue Moon and Come Fly With Me, and you've got the closest thing we can now get to the man himself.

Sinatra will be on at the London Palladium for a limited run until Saturday 10 October 2015.

Readers of *The Resident* can save 5% when booking with Shows in London via theresident.co.uk/theatre or calling 020 3567 0620 and quoting *The Resident*



PERFECT RECIPE

If you are thinking about planning a new kitchen, and are partial to the finer things in life, then Linear London has an event for you. The Balham-based home improvement business is hosting a Cheese & Wine Event from 7.30-9.30pm at The Wine Tasting Shop on Thursday 24 September, where you can also get expert advice.

Numbers are limited, so please email clare@linearlondon.com to RSVP



TOWER OF LONDON

Running from 8 September-1 November, a ceramic installation six metres high designed by artist Barnaby Barford will be displayed in the V&A Medieval & Renaissance Galleries. The Tower of Babel consists of 3,000 individual bone china buildings, each 13cm tall and representing a real London shop.

Cromwell Road SW7 2RL; 020 7942 2000; vam.ac.uk

Don't miss Multiplied

Head to Christie's South Kensington this autumn to discover the best in contemporary art editions.

Now in its sixth year, **MULTIPLIED** showcases the very best of art editions. Taking place during Frieze Week, between October 17-20 the fair will feature a wide selection of prints, photography, digital art and multiples. Work from celebrated artists such as Sir Peter Blake, Mat Collishaw and Eileen Cooper will be featured alongside new pieces from some of the hottest new talents from London's leading art colleges including the Royal College of Art.

MULTIPLIED will appeal to collectors and enthusiasts alike with prices starting from \$50. **The Resident** is proud to be the London Media partner for the fair so look out for more information and news on **MULTIPLIED** soon.

For more information see multipliedartfair.com



EDY FERGUSON, SLEEPING BEAUTY (KATE WITH VINES), 2015. COURTESY OF CCA GALLERIES
LARA DRNOVSEK, MAGNOLIA, DIGITAL PRINT, 2015. COURTESY OF MADE IN ARTS LONDON
GRAYSON PERRY RA, ISLAND OF BAD ART, ETCHING, 2013. -© COURTESY OF RA EDITIONS

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READ ALL ABOUT IT

Children's author Jacqueline Wilson on why she's looking forward to appearing at Kew Gardens' first literary festival

Words KAT HOPPS

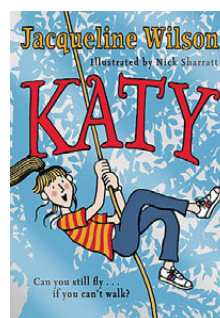
Does Jacqueline Wilson become as excitable as her fans when coming face to face with her literary hero or heroine? It's something I'm dying to ask the children's writer as she appears on a star-studded bill of authors this month — including Louis de Bernières, Hanif Kureishi, A.S. Byatt, Bill Bryson, Penelope Lively and David Nicholls — for Kew Gardens' first-ever literary festival, Write on Kew. 'I know they have Margaret Atwood coming who I very much admire,' she says without hesitation. 'I think I would be quite... overcome is the right word,' followed by peals of animated giggles. 'But I don't think I will be running up

and saying "Hi Maggie, how are you?"' Despite being a prodigious writer of 102 books, selling in excess of 38m copies in the UK alone, Jacqueline remains as much a fangirl at heart as the rest of us.

It's no real surprise once you start talking to her. The 69-year-old has a down-to-earth, amenable manner and a sweet, musical voice. She chats at length and has a knack for putting you at ease. She also comes across as a person who cares deeply: about her characters and the children for whom she writes.

On *Katy*, her newest book, which shot straight to no.1 in the children's hardback sales list on 30 July, she says, 'It's a book I tried really hard with. I haven't yet

Right: Jacqueline at home; and below, her new book *Katy*, which she will be reading from at Write on Kew

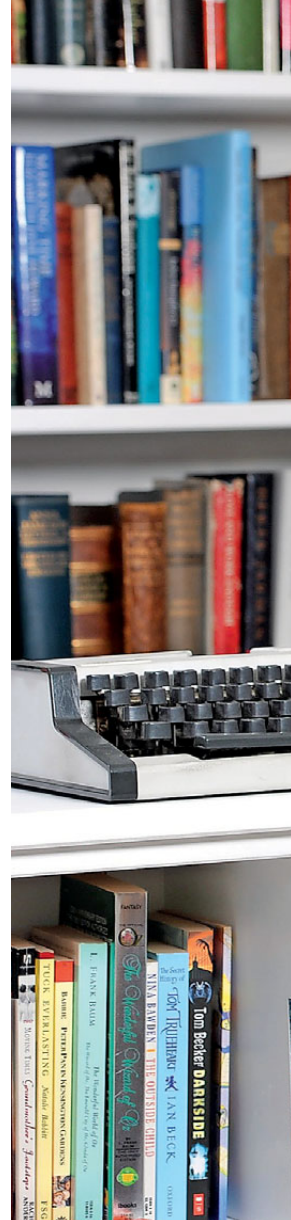


received the latest batch of emails and letters from children who have actually read it but certainly from looking at a few blogs, it seems to have done well so far, which is very reassuring to me.'

Katy is a modern retelling of *What Katy Did* and the original Victorian children's tale, written by Susan Coolidge in 1872, is one of Jacqueline's childhood favourites. The central character is a young, headstrong tomboy who is forever getting into scrapes. After suffering a terrible accident and becoming an invalid, she has to learn how to cope with her new situation by becoming good and patient. By the end of the book she is able to walk again. Although the author was initially reluctant to touch a classic, she felt it was justified in this case because of the 'slightly skewed message' in the book's moral fabric. 'For kids who have had terrible accidents and particularly bad spinal injuries where there is really little hope of them walking again, it seems to mean to suggest that if you're very good



The Nash Conservatory at Kew Gardens





and patient, perhaps you will learn to walk again.'

Jacqueline didn't want to offer her heroine a miracle cure. 'I want children to identify with Katy and realise that rather than being good and patient all the time, actually you've got to be a bit gutsy, a bit determined; you've got to stand up for yourself and see that your life isn't over if you have a terrible accident.'

Her tough subject matter — alcoholism, mental illness and divorce have all featured — and her characters' resilience in the face of adversity is what her young fans love her for, even if their parents do not. From Tracy Beaker (who lives in a children's home) to Hetty Feather (a Victorian child abandoned by her birth mother in a foundling hospital) her young female role models are feisty, determined and spirited, although often just as vulnerable.

Perhaps more deeply affected by criticism than she lets on, Jacqueline has tried to effectively rebel against herself at times. 'I don't know why... I frequently

think, well I'm going to surprise everyone and I'm going to write a really light-hearted fluffy book where everything goes right for this child — and yet as soon as I write it, by about the second chapter, things seem to be sliding away from me,' she says.

The mum of one (to daughter Emma) seems to instinctively 'get' children and receives letters by the bucketful, although she is unable to respond to each one. She tells me that only the day before this interview she read a letter from a child saying how important her book *The Suitcase Kid* had been for helping her deal with her parents' divorce.

The subject has featured in Jacqueline's own life — she is divorced from the father of her child, Emma — and her parents reportedly endured through an unsatisfactory marriage. She has said in the past that she did not receive overwhelming support from her

parents to become a writer despite finding her vocation young, so she understands how happy-ever-afters are not a childhood norm for everyone.

Jacqueline found her escapism in books as an early child — 'I led a very bizarrely rich, imaginary life for most of my childhood' — but found her refuge in more sordid, real-life material than children's books, which she says were 'very bland and reassuring. I read a very downmarket women's magazine,

called *Women's Home Companion*, which I thought very dramatic — and I also loved the problem pages at the back.'

While these stories provided the escapism, Kingston acted as her cocoon. 'The Kingston library was a wonderful treasure house for me; certainly during the holidays I bobbed up there practically every other day.' Her local environment

*I frequently think, well
I'm going to surprise
everyone and write a
really fluffy book*



has been a rich source of influence for her over the years. Kew Gardens featured as an excursion in her book *Kiss*, while in *The Butterfly Club*, a character becomes interested in butterflies after seeing large numbers of butterflies fluttering together in a controlled environment. Jacqueline said she had been to such an event at Kew ‘and it sort of stuck in my mind, so you can say that Kew has been immensely inspirational.’ She discloses that the fictional setting of King Town, featured in so many of her tales ‘is pretty similar to Kingston’ and the Flower Field shopping centre bears some resemblance to the Bentalls shopping centre, although she remonstrates that she tries to keep the settings as generic as possible.

Kingston has always been her home and she remains as enamoured with its amenities as she is with the bucolic charms of nearby Richmond and Kew. ‘There are times when I think I’d like to live by the seaside,’ she lets on, ‘or one of those little lovely Surrey Villages, but Kingston still has lots of magic places. The Alligator’s Mouth is an excellent bookshop. I love to walk in Home Park up towards Hampton Quarter. I love Richmond Park and walking by the river... I can’t really see myself moving away, not at this stage in my life anyway.’

What she’d really like to do is ‘to revisit the 50s when I was a little girl. I wouldn’t necessarily want to be a little girl but I’d like to walk round Kingston the way it used to be. I used to know every shop there and it’s almost like another modern town has been plonked down on top of the old Kingston that I knew.’

She recounts the days of getting into Kew Gardens for a penny, discovering antique shops at Brady’s Arcade and going to the Kingston Empire, now a Wetherspoons, appearing a little

Kingston still has lots of magic places. I can’t really see myself moving away

wistful at times. She hopes she will always be able to understand the children she writes for, but if not, ‘you can always go back in the past. I feel I know where I am really with the Victorians or even little 1950s children.’

However, Jacqueline asserts that children today remain the same even in such rapidly changing times. ‘From the letters and emails I get from girls aged between seven and 15, deep down what they really care about is having a best friend — or feeling upset because they haven’t got a best friend — when should they start to go out with boys, feeling worried about their parents say... children are still children.’

Nor is she particularly worried that modern technology is the grim reaper of reading, saying that while quiet time should be set aside for fiction so children develop the knack of concentrating, she has ‘yet to meet a child that doesn’t like to be told a story’.

No doubt, the local children will be turning out in enthralled droves to behold their favourite author reading in the flesh at Write on Kew. She’s thrilled that a literary festival is coming to her Kew Gardens, one of her favourite places in all the world. ‘It’s absolutely time for a literary festival at Kew,’ she says. ‘I think it will be very successful.’ And will it be nice for it to be close to home? ‘It will be absolutely wonderful that I won’t be up at the crack of dawn to shoot off to Euston, King’s Cross or wherever!’ There underneath lies the cheeky Jacqueline Wilson — the original Hetty, Katy and Tracy of them all.

Katy by Jacqueline Wilson (Penguin), £12.99, is out now. **Write on Kew** takes place at Kew Gardens from 24 to 28 September. Jacqueline will be appearing on 27 September at 4.30pm. See more at kew.org/writeonkew

Write on Kew Authors

Write on Kew will host 80 events across all genres, from fiction to science, children’s to cookery. Here are some of the other big names there:



J
The comedian and broadcaster will be reading from her new novel *A Slice of the Moon*



HANIF KUREISHI
Author of *My Beautiful Laundrette* talks about his new book *Love + Hate: Stories and Essays*



JUDITH KERR
Author of *The Tiger Who Came to Tea* will be in conversation about her life



JAMES WONG
Gardening expert James will talk about his new book *Grow for Flavour*



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SPREAD YOUR WINGS

Sean Holmes, Artistic Director of Lyric Hammersmith, on the theatre's impressive new extension and new season shows

Words WILL GORE

Audiences that have been flocking to see *Bugsy Malone* splurge gun its way around the Lyric stage since the show opened in April have not only been able to enjoy a great night out at the theatre, but they have also had the chance to get acquainted with an extraordinary addition to the cultural life of west London. For the last two years the Lyric has been more or less a building site while an ambitious £20 million renovation project took place. Now the work has been completed and the Reuben Foundation Wing is well and truly open for business.

'I don't think there is another building in the country like this,' says Sean Holmes, the Lyric Theatre's artistic director, as he tells me about the array of facilities that are now at his and his team's disposal. Adjoining the Lyric's bar and spreading out over two floors above the Kings Mall shopping centre, this dazzling extension is made up of dance and film studios, a state of the art recording studio, a 'digital play space' and a huge rehearsal room. There are also music practice rooms, a sensory room for people with special needs, and a small cinema.

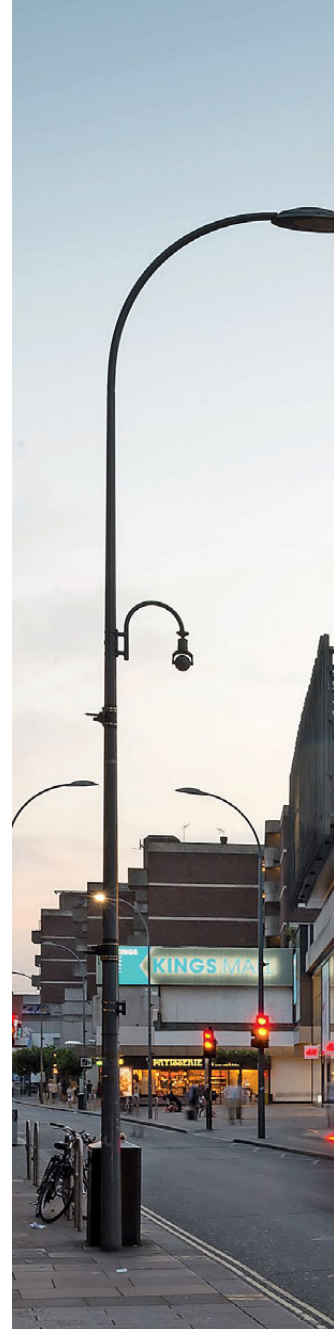
Sean says that these new spaces will help the Lyric improve in one of its key areas — its work with young people. 'The new wing means we can massively expand the quality, quantity and range of work we can do with young people,' he continues. 'We've always been known for working with young people, and that's reflected in the youth and diversity of our audience. The range of what we can do now and the diversity of artforms on offer is really new and makes us a very interesting place to be.'

The programme of events and classes already taking place includes ballet lessons, computer coding workshops, film clubs and sessions on TV presenting. Enjoying these are youngsters from local schools and colleges, as well as members of the Lyric's Young Company (anyone under 25 can join for just £10).

Along with the addition of the Reuben Foundation Wing, Sean talks me through the

improvements that have also been made to the original part of the Lyric. The 19th century auditorium has remained untouched, but the building has been made more energy efficient and eco-friendly, while the bar and restaurant facilities have been greatly improved. All of this work has been made possible by money from central government, the local authority, the Arts council, and other individual donors, and Holmes pays tribute to the Lyric's executive director, Jessica Hepburn, who he says has been the driving force behind the entire project.

Of course, the Reuben Foundation Wing will grab plenty of attention with all of the amazing opportunities it affords visitors to the theatre, but Holmes is also very much focused on making sure that the Lyric continues to be known for the excellence of the shows it puts on its main stage. On





A new production of Sarah Water's *Tipping the Velvet*, starring recent RADA graduate Sally Messham (above) will open at Lyric Hammersmith this September



Tipping the Velvet is potentially a controversial area in terms of frankness about sexuality, but the form of the show will be very music hall

Lyric Hammersmith now has an impressive roof garden

his watch, the Lyric has developed a reputation for staging an eclectic array of productions, from the challenging and provocative Secret Theatre programme that took place while the renovation work was underway, to more populist fare such as *Bugsy Malone*. The two major upcoming productions, *Tipping the Velvet*, an adaptation of Sarah Waters' novel which explores lesbianism in Victorian London, and the annual pantomime — this year its *Cinderella* — will again showcase the Lyric's bold approach to programming.

'*Tipping the Velvet* is potentially a controversial area in terms of its frankness about sexuality, but the form of the show will be very music hall and popular,' explains Sean. 'We had to put the opening back because of the building works but that allowed us to really develop the play and develop ideas. Director Lindsey Turner and writer Laura Wade

worked together on *Posh* and have been great. They have come up with a brilliant pop art Victoriana concept, it's of the period but its now slavishly stuck in it. They'll use contemporary songs in a music hall style and there will be live music, too.'

And what about the pantomime? Inspired by the Hackney Empire's renowned festive extravaganza, Sean established the Lyric's own panto not long after taking over. He's delighted that it has now become a mainstay of the theatre's calendar: 'We use proper actors, not people off the telly, and we get really good writers. I'm proud of it and it always feels like a really Lyric kind of show.'

He adds that the way the audience for the pantomime has built over the years proves that people in the locality and beyond have truly connected with the theatre. And, thanks to the magnificent Reuben Foundation Wing, Sean is looking forward to the Lyric connecting with even more people in the months and years to come.

For more information about the Lyric Theatre and the Reuben Foundation Wing, visit lyric.co.uk

FALL FAVOURITES

Update your home with one of this season's key new trends

Story KARA O'REILLY



Lobmeyr 'Fingers' crystal chandelier designed by Johannes Rath, £49,975, harlequin-london.com



Tank low ball glass, £45 for pair, tomdixon.net



Terina shelving unit, £730, outthereinteriors.com



Labirinto glass table, from £690, natuzzi.com

Rutledge sofa, £3,250; Scalinatella cocktail table, £1,950; other items from a selection, all uk.jonathanadler.com

GLAM 70s

High-end 1970s interior design is having a long overdue re-appreciation: think gilt and glamour with a witty nod to disco



Green marble box, £60, johnlewis.com



Puzzle velvet cushion, £25, marksandspencer.com



Stanley armchair by Abigail Ahern, £610, sofa.com

'Going for 70s-style glamour? Then the words low, loungey, and louche should inform your decorating decisions.'
Jonathan Adler

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£19.50; Floral cross-stitch
cushion, £35, and Arabella
cushion, £19.50, all
marksandspencer.com



Dragon Flower
cushion, from £100,
sukicheema.com



Kiondo medium
basket by Mifuko, £50,
uniqueandunity.co.uk



Oola Moroccan photo
frame, £10, joythestore.com

WORLDWIDE APPEAL

Interiors' on-going love affair with the global design village shows no sign of abating any time soon. This look is about mixing up patterns and shapes, from a world of influences

*'Global
design inspiration
has created a collection
that is rich in colour,
pattern and texture.'*
Stephanie Chen,
Director, Home,
Marks & Spencer

Cypress hand-
stitched
crewelwork
rug, from £380,
therugcompany.com



Mya mirror, £225,
houseoffraser.co.uk



Zea geometric
side plate, £8,
habitat.co.uk



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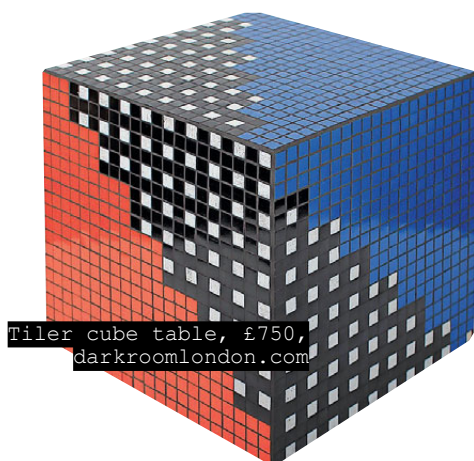


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both george.com



Tiler cube table, £750,
darkroomlondon.com



Oxo shelving unit, £395;
Abu oak coffee table, £180;
Dolomite rug, £350; Bowie
red candle holder, £25; Pila
multicolour candlesticks, £35
each; Yoko red and yellow
candlestick, £18; Bobby
multicolour floor lamp, £70,
all from habitat.co.uk



Hicks planter
medium, £70,
darkroomlondon.com

MOOD MEMPHIS

Graphic monochrome prints are still going strong, but this season they are given a boost with the addition of pops of primary blues, reds and yellows, referencing the 1980s



*'Inspiration
for the autumn
collection comes from
the iconic Memphis
design movement.'*
Polly Dickens, Creative
Director, Habitat

Pew chair, £495,
and Pew benches,
£750 each, all
bainesandfricker.net

Black lines kilim rug, £89,
futureandfound.com

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Flos table lamp, model 548, £825, tollgard.co.uk

Pimlico armchair in velvet, £395, atkinandthyme.co.uk

'Blue covers a huge spectrum, from cool to warm, silvery to earthy, so it works for everyone.'
David Mottershead,
Managing Director,
Little Greene

Pipevine silk cushion in midnight, £55, clarissahulse.com



Scent Earth candles, from £80 each, tomdixon.net



Christy Supreme towels in Midnight, £3.50-£30, christy-home.com

TRUE BLUES

From Wedgwood to sapphire, blues are the new grey. Soothing, calming and with the benefit of looking good in our northern light, blue adds easy colour to a room scheme

Elliston large sofa in Modici Velvet Teal, £2,099, marksandspencer.com





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Marble, £375, and
Braemar rug in Putty,
£49, all johnlewis.com



Butterfly pendant in walnut, £365,
tomraffield.com



Andalucia serving
bowl, £18,
habitat.co.uk



Strath lambswool
cushion, £95,
johnstonscashmere.com



Speckle jug, £14,
murmur.co.uk

RUSTIC TEXTURES

The materials of the moment are totally au naturel. Think worn woods, weighty pottery, natural stones, hand-blown glassware, chunky knits and slubby tweeds



Weave vase, £18,
george.com

'Traditional methods and natural materials make for a look that has a comfortable sensibility.'
Sue Roberts, Design Director, House of Fraser



Basket knit throw by
Gray & Willow, £100,
houseoffraser.co.uk



Barra small sofa in Melton
Herringbone, £1,299,
marksandspencer.com



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The right touch

Create a stylish bathroom with GSI Ceramica and Touchstone Bathrooms

A modern bathroom is at the heart of any contemporary home; it is the place where stylish looks combine with storage solutions to create a welcoming haven free from everyday stresses. Why then do so many of us forget to cohere the individual elements when it comes to the overall design? The key to creating a beautifully-presented bathroom lies in coordinating the highest-quality sanitaryware, with the best vanity units.

So it's welcome news that just in time for the colder months ahead, comes a brand new collection of Italian-designed, Italian-made, quality sanitaryware from luxury brand GSI Ceramica. The range, which is exclusive to Touchstone Bathrooms in East Sheen, has been expertly crafted using the latest technology: all GSI products feature pristine profiles and smooth surfaces thanks to an exclusive Extraglaze treatment process that lasts.

The collection, which can be viewed now at Touchstone Bathroom's East Sheen showroom, has five distinct ranges: Sand, Norm, Pura, Kube and Classic, each one with dedicated storage solutions and inspiring Italian design for homeowners. Products include vanity units, washbasins and wall storage in all sizes and finishes complemented by WCs and bidets to suit the overall design.

With its simple lines and sharp edges, Norm is



Expertly crafted using the latest technology, GSI products feature pristine profiles and smooth surfaces

the perfect design for minimalistic styles, from the space-saving Norm35 vanity unit to the imposing proportions of the Norm125 double basin, plus revolutionary Swirlflush® technology on the WCs, which maximises hygiene and improves flush performance.

The Sand range (main image) of products takes its inspiration from deserted sandy beaches and the flow of water. The collection features sinuous, enveloping and soft shapes coupled with functionality and individuality. Kube has clean cut lines and a wide colour choice of stylish handleless storage units while Pura skillfully balances straight lines with soft shapes, exuding a touch of luxury that fits perfectly with GSI's design philosophy: simple and tasteful.

Finally, the Classic collection features traditional designs that are inspired by the Neoclassical style. The furniture collection has been especially designed to enhance the beauty of the sanitary ware, and it is available in two sophisticated colours: Espresso and Mink. No matter your choice, the experts at Touchstone Bathrooms East Sheen can help. Established for over 20 years, the company works with a range of manufacturers and designers to bring you the latest in bathroom products and design.

For more information about the GSI Ceramica Collection, contact Touchstone Bathrooms East Sheen: 020 8878 4820; touchstonebathrooms.com

SITTING PRETTY

Snug seating is an essential element of every home, so if you are after ideas and inspiration take a look at these key pieces from the new season's collections

Story KARA O'REILLY



Clean lines

If it's a contemporary edge you want, look to Sir Terence Conran's own-label collection, which offers an edited range of stylish seating. Aspen sofa, from £1,595, contentbyterenceconran.com



Grown-up glamour

New York interior designer Jonathan Adler specialises in fashionable, colourful and witty pieces – and his seating designs are no exception.

Baxter sofa, £3,495, uk.jonathanadler.com



Accent pieces

Oliver Bonas's tactile, vibrant, velvet-covered tub chairs are a great way to introduce some bold colour into an interior scheme.

Velvet tub chairs, £445 each, oliverbonas.com

Online ordering

Sofa.com is a web-based retailer that has a great range of affordable and well-designed seating choices.

Holly small corner sofa, from £1,870, sofa.com



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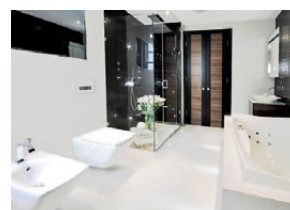


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Odyssey large sofa, £2,000, johnlewis.com



Modern classics

The interior design maven, Nina Campbell, puts her years of expertise to good use in her range of own-label designs.

Hartley armchair, from £3,180, ninacampbell.com





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A GLASS ACT

Pieter Booyse of sash window specialists Fortis & Hooke answers our questions

Where is Fortis & Hooke based?

We have offices in London and Kent, and offer our services to customers in the South East of England.

What services do you offer?

We offer a variety of services tailor-made to ensure that period windows and doors are professionally repaired, draught-proofed, painted and retro-glazed. In extreme cases we also offer a full replacement service.

What's your position in the business?

Head of Sales and Operations

You recently completed a project in Putney, tell us about that...

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The doors and windows had minor rot and paint breakdown throughout. They had been badly maintained in the past, and as a result were draughty and heat-inefficient.



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We repaired all the rotten windows and doors, fully painted them utilising the Weathershield system, retro-double glazed them and draught-proofed them.

How long did the process take?

It took three weeks in total.

Were the homeowners living in the property at the time?

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Speaking hypothetically, when would I need to call in the experts?

Sash windows have inherent flaws due to the way they are made. They tend to be rattly and draughty, plus they require specialist attention when painting them. We would suggest getting an expert to survey windows when the rattles and draughts get too intrusive. Also having sash windows painted by an expert would give your windows longevity.

Why should I restore sash windows instead of replacing them?

We believe that original windows are part of our heritage and it's our duty to maintain original windows for the ones that come after us. Restoration is the greenest option available and costs less than replacement. Plus, the original timber durability is hard to match with modern, less seasoned alternatives.

Is there anything else that we need to be aware of?

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*Mini Trend:
Drinks Trolleys*

The return to glamour has brought about the resurgence of the cocktail cart



Luxe drinks trolley, £350, oliverbonas.com



Gatsby marble and brass drinks trolley, £249, rockettstgeorge.co.uk



Cheval bar cart, £1,950, uk.jonathanadler.com

HOMES
NOTEBOOK

Kara O'Reilly brings you the latest interior news

**Downstairs tips for upstairs types**

This book could do for housekeeping what Della's How to Cook did for a generation of cooks. It's a back-to-basics guide to what you need to know in order to keep your home spick, span and generally gorgeous – comprehensively tackling every practicality from how to clean stains off a marble work surface to the best way to organise a laundry cupboard. *Keeping House* by Cindy Harris (Ryland, Peters & Small, £16.99) is available to readers of *The Resident* for the special price of £11.99 (inc p&p).

To order, call Macmillan Direct on 01256 302699 and quote reference GLR DY1

Cut some rug

Deirdre Dyson, the fine artist and designer rug doyenne, has completely revamped her Chelsea headquarters to create a gallery-like space befitting her gorgeous, grown-up bespoke rugs and carpets. The opening neatly coincides with the publication of her first book, *Walking on Art* (Thames & Hudson, £38).

Deirdre Dyson Carpet Gallery, 554 King's Road SW6 2DZ; deirdredyson.com



PSSST: Yes, it's that time of year again when a myriad of exciting events take place all over the capital as part of London Design Festival. Look to visit Design Junction and 100% Design, plus events at the seven official design districts. 19-27 September; londondesignfestival.com

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TOM PARKER BOWLES

Australia has won me over, but there's no place like home

Australia is one hell of a country. But then you knew that already. I've just spent a couple of months there, filming all over for a new TV series, *The Hotplate*. And I've fallen head over heels in love. With its straight talking, no-nonsense inhabitants who take pride in telling it as it is; and cities, from ever-sexy Sydney, to magnificent Melbourne, to languid, languorous, laid-back Brisbane. And Perth, so far from anywhere, yet so fresh faced and bathed in the purest of light. Plus the icy beer, morning dips off Bondi Beach, green juices, some of the finest, rough-edged South East Asian food you'll find anywhere on earth; Tim Tams, Chicken Twisties, lollies (the Aussie words for sweets), Red Rooster fries with chicken salt and pie with gravy. Britain aside, there's nowhere else I'd rather live.

But I missed London too. Of course I did. It's still the greatest city on earth, and even though Sydney and Melbourne are blessed with endless knockout restaurants (Caysorn Thai, House, The Apollo and Mr Wong in Sydney; Estelle, St Crispin and Chin Chin in Melbourne, to name but a few of my favourites), there were certain things I craved. Like those dining institutions that can only exist in London: The Wolseley, Le Caprice and J Sheekey, with their potted shrimps, and asparagus drenched in butter, decent smoked salmon, and very English bustle, seasoned with a handful of old fashioned familiarity.

Then the long lunching spots like St John, Quo Vadis, Hereford Road and Lyle's, British in both cuisine and soul. Indian food might be improving in Oz, but it's still a long way behind Blighty when it



Tom missed the delights of J Sheekey whilst working in Australia

comes to top-notch curries. Occasionally, I'd crave Gymkhana or Indian Zing in Hammersmith, first-class regional Indian tucker.

But most of all, I missed hunching over the hob, and cooking my own food. Sure, my house did have a kitchen. But on the very rare days I was actually home, there were simply too many new places to explore. So it wasn't just my favourite butchers (HG Walter and The Ginger Pig) that I pined after, but grabbing fresh flatbreads, huge bunches of herbs and fragrant spices on the way home from work from Damas Gate on Uxbridge Road. And despite Australian beer being wonderfully varied, the pubs are very different from ours, part bookie, part old-fashioned saloon. They do the job, often too well. Compared, though, to our great secular boozing churches, they come up short.

Then there was Vegemite. I did make do with it. I had to. But despite my deep love for this great and glorious land, one fact will never change — Marmite is the original. And the best.

EDITOR'S CHOICE - LOCAL HOME COMFORTS

Annie's

Lorraine Angliss' Annie's in Chiswick and Barnes (36-38 White Hart Lane) are two of our favourite neighbourhood hangouts. Expect a warm reception and fantastic British and Mediterranean food.

162 Thames Road, Chiswick W4 3QS
020 8994 9080

Linnea

A Kew Green gem, Linnea's fresh seasonal food — British sourced where possible — is served in a minimalist Scandinavian-style dining room. Location-wise it's a winner in our book too.

12 Kew Green, Richmond TW9 3BH
020 8940 5696

Charlotte's Place

Independent, family-run Charlotte's Place has been feeding the hungry hordes of Ealing since 1984. There's a good reason it's still successful in 2015, so if you haven't been in yet, you really must go.

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020 8567 7541



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N
NEPTUNE

Smokeyhouse Chiswick has a new Sunday lunch menu

SUNDAY BEST

Chiswick's Smokeyhouse has relaunched their new Sunday roast lunch menu for autumn. Created by executive chef Neil Rankin, the menu focusses on seasonality and outstanding produce, with a special focus on sourcing from small farms and rare-breed meats. Whole smoked Somerset Goat, Smoked ox cheek and grilled pork rib eye with all the trimmings are sure to provide Sunday roasts to remember.

smokeyhouse.pub

FOOD NOTEBOOK

Emily Manson's local foodie news

PERFECT PIZZA

Toyin's Kitchen has launched a new pizza topper to add to its range of Obe Ata sauces. Made from the freshest ingredients, it's all totally natural – just tomatoes, peppers and onions blended to create the delicious and versatile base cooking sauce. From just £2 a jar. toyinskitchen.co.uk

40 years of Leith's

West London cookery school Leith's is celebrating its 40th anniversary and its new courses reflect its iconic culinary status. With cheffing legends including founder Prue Leith, Rick Stein, Yotam Ottolenghi and Gizzi Erskine kicking celebrations off with a panel talk and tasting on the Changing Tastes of Britain (£50 pp), there's also an A-list line-up of classes from Korean food with Judy Joo, Bengali Fish Kitchen with Angela Malik, Spanish and Italian Sharing Plates with Ben Tish.

For full details visit leiths.com

DON'T MISS...

The Bingham's fabulously decadent Dictador Rum and Cigar Dinner on Thursday 17 September. A specially designed five-course dinner including grilled lobster and Telmara farm duck created to go with a range of Colombian smooth aged rums and gins from renowned distiller Dictador. 61-63 Petersham Rd, Richmond TW10 6UT; thebingham.co.uk

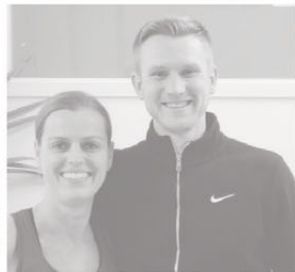
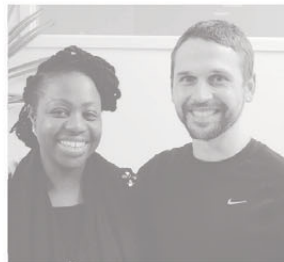
New menu at K West

K West Hotel has launched a new menu for its recently relaunched Studio Bar and Kitchen. The new head chef, 25-year-old rising star Rhianon Ball, has created a menu with a range of US style 'dude food', such as Green Chilli Cheese Burger, Buttermilk Chicken Burger and Truffled Mac & Cheese, as well as a selection of modern European dishes.

K West Hotel, Richmond Way, W14 0AX; k-west.co.uk

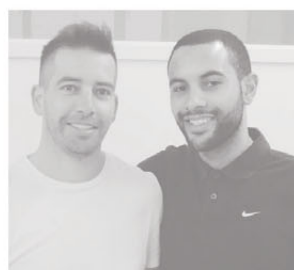


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RUN RICHMOND

The Richmond Running Festival, which includes the Kew Gardens 10K and a half marathon, returns to the borough for its second year. The route starts in Kew and ends in Old Deer Park and 10% of the entry fee goes to two local charities. richmondrunningfestival.com



English rose

Rugby World Cup 2015 kicks off on 18 September, as England take on Fiji at Twickenham Stadium.

Whether you're at the game or not, show your support for our national team and wear an English rose. This collared classic shirt — in the same style as the Rugby World Cup version — is tailored for female fans and is made of a 60% cotton and 40% polyester blend. £55.

The Rugby Store, Twickenham Stadium, 200 Whitton Road TW2 7BA; canterbury.com

HEALTH & FITNESS NOTEBOOK

Tips to help you look good and feel great

In the swim

Way in wearable technology with the launch of their automatic swim-tracking feature on the Withings Activite and Activite Pop. The watches automatically adjust on impact with the water, allowing users to record swim time, calories and distance covered.

Read more at withings.com



Crucial Food in Chiswick

Head to The Crucial Café & Gallery, at The Hogarth Health Club, for a nutritious and delicious breakfast, lunch or snack. Founded by Head Chef and clinical nutritionist Ruth Wood, the menu offers a host of healthy meals, smoothies and cold-pressed juices.

020 8747 4047;
crucialfood.com

HEALTHY BRITISH FOODS IN SEASON

Apples

As the old adage goes, an apple a day keeps the doctor away... Well, we're not claiming that but apples are high in fibre and Vitamin C. Add a teaspoon of peanut butter to a sliced apple for a crunchy snack.



Pears

Perfectly ripe, British pears come into their own at this time of year. They're high in fibre and Vitamin C, and contain a significant amount of nutritious pectin (a water soluble fibre).



Blackberries

British blackberries are in their prime in September so enjoy a handful of these purple-hued berries, or add them to a homemade dessert of ice cream (or frozen yoghurt) and a sprinkling of almonds.



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*ISA Excellence Award 2015



FIRE GOES OUT

All good things must come to an end – something Chiswick author Cressida Cowell knows only too well...

Words MARK KEBBLE

There's an amusing bit on Cressida Cowell's website where she mentions she is married to Simon Cowell, but making it clear it's not *the* Simon Cowell. However, if she was married to *the* Simon Cowell, I reckon she'd be on a level pegging fame-wise. After all, the Chiswick author is behind the *How To Train Your Dragon* series, which has sold seven million books worldwide and inspired Dreamworks' TV and movie franchise of the same name, with the second film taking \$619 million at the box office last year. On 8 September, though, everything will come to an end.



'It was hard work,' Cressida admits when asked how tough it was to pen *How To Fight A Dragon's Fury*, the 12th – and final – book in the series. 'There were all the plotlines to tie up and lots of stories to tell. And from an emotional point of view I have been writing these books for 15 years – but I always had an ending in mind.'

The origins of Viking Hiccup Horrendous Haddock III's story go even further back than 15 years. As a child, Cressida's family split their time between London and a remote island in

Scotland – 'It was like treasure island, so inspiring,' she exclaims about the latter – where Vikings once settled. One local tale spoke about a dragon that had turned into a mountainside on the island, 'and I always wondered what if it woke up' Cressida says. 'The actual story of Hiccup I only came up with 15 years ago, but I always dreamt about dragons.'

How To Train Your Dragon was first published in 2003 and is an enchanting tale, which is accentuated by Cressida's own illustrations in the book. It was prime fodder for a film adaptation, which came about in 2010. 'It was a very long process,' Cressida recalls. 'The film took around seven years to make. I remember seeing the first completed scene. It was where Hiccup first meets Toothless and shoots him down. It had extraordinary lighting, and the whole scene had ambiguity and subtlety – and it just blew me away. I knew then that it was going to be fabulous.'

The series has become such a hit that Cressida is often trailing around festivals

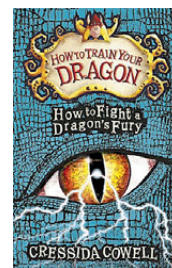
and, importantly for her, schools. 'I was always interested in getting children to read,' she states. 'It's that mix of telling stories in words and pictures, and getting children excited about reading and books. It is a real fight for a child's attention these days. There's something very exciting for an author to rise to that challenge and get a child hooked on a story. That happens through the National Literary Trust [which Cressida does a lot of work for], but also through school teachers and parents. The inspiring thing

is so many care about the survival of books.'

Cressida has certainly cracked it with the tales of Hiccup – and the finale sounds like she has saved the best

until last – so how do you follow up something that's become so big? 'There is something, but I am not allowed to say,' she apologises. No matter – we are pretty sure it will be bigger than *the* Simon Cowell.

How To Fight A Dragon's Fury is published on 8 September, priced at £12.99 (hardback); cressidacowell.co.uk



From an emotional point of view I have been writing these books for 15 years



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DOUBLE VISION

A new era may be dawning at Chiswick's Orchard House School, but don't expect a change in ethos or values

BY MARK KEBBLE

I feel as though I have interrupted a ceremonial moment. Arriving to meet Sally Hobbs – outgoing Headmistress of Orchard House School – and her successor, Maria Edwards, the former is in the process of removing her name from the office door. ‘It’s the right time for me,’ Mrs Hobbs insists. ‘I am positive about retirement and have been planning this for a year.’

A year isn’t a long time, however, when you consider Mrs Hobbs has been in charge of the hugely successful IAPS Chiswick preparatory school for children aged three to 11 since day one, some 22 years ago. Part of the House Schools Group founded by the Rentoul family, back then in 1993 the school had 65 children and just one building, whereas today there are 294 children spread across four buildings. ‘I have run it like a family,’ Mrs Hobbs smiles when I ask what she is most proud of during her time here. ‘I love the way the children want to come to school, how they fly in. That’s what I wanted, so I am really proud of that. I have always run the school as if they were my own children.’

Mrs Hobbs’ achievements are there for all to see, whether it’s the fantastic array of top senior schools that Orchard House pupils head off to (even more impressive considering the school is non-selective), or the recently completed ISI report that deemed the school excellent in all areas – and dishing out the coveted one and only ‘exceptional’ accolade that the ISI will award, for the quality of pupils’ achievements and learning. Mrs Hobbs, full of energy, intends to stay in education in some shape or form, and will be quite an act to follow – so why was this role right for Mrs Edwards? ‘Why not?’ she responds with a smile.

Why not, indeed. Mrs Edwards comes to Orchard House School with a wealth



Maria Edwards, left, is taking over from Sally Hobbs at Orchard House School

of experience: she has been Headmistress of two other well-known prep schools in the north of England. She talks warmly about the House Schools Group, and how the Headmistresses at the other two sister schools in the group – Bassett House and Prospect House – are always there to help and advise if necessary.

Then there is the similarity between the two sitting before me. ‘We are both all about the children,’ Mrs Edwards states. ‘In the classroom, it’s about the child being independent in their learning, and being able to make mistakes.’

That’s important, particularly for younger children: it’s about allowing them to make mistakes and believe they are learning in the process.’

We talk about the success Orchard House School has had in the past regarding entrance to London’s leading schools, with Mrs Hobbs believing it’s not solely down to results from exam papers. ‘It’s about building relationships with the right schools,’ she points out. ‘If a child has a glitch on a paper, they will

ask if I still support the application, and I will know the child and respond honestly. I will never support an application if it’s wrong for the child for that particular school.’

There’s a wealth of opportunity for the children at Orchard House School, making full use of the local community around them, and it’s clear a well-rounded educational experience is one both Mrs Hobbs and her successor Mrs Edwards advocate. The latter has been involved with the school since last year, starting full-time at the sister schools in April and working at Orchard House for the last half of the summer term, so when the new sign goes up on the Head’s door, everything has been prepared for. But despite Mrs Hobbs’s positivity, surely there’s a hint of sadness? ‘I’m really going to miss it,’ she nods. ‘When you have given something your all for 22 years, all hours of the day, how could you not miss it? But I know I have made the right decision. There’s never any reason for complacency and I know absolutely that Mrs Edwards will not allow it, either.’

Orchard House School, 16 Newton Grove W4 1LB; 020 8742 8544; orchardhs.org.uk

I love the way the children want to come to school. That’s what I am really proud of

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How best to test our youngsters: through on-going assessment or exams?

EARLY CALL

Why the return of formal tests for seven-year-olds may not be such a bad thing after all

Words SUE LAIDLAW

Once again our tested – and some might say, over-tested – children may soon experience another batch of formal assessments to undertake. It is suggested that Nick Gibb, Schools Minister, is moving towards a return to externally marked formal tests for seven-year-olds.

Whilst children in Year 6, the top year of primary school, have been tested for many years, formal testing at the end of the Key Stage 1, when children are seven or even six, was abolished over ten years ago in favour of less formalised tests that are marked by teachers. It was felt, by many, that this is too early to put children through formal testing.

Whilst this has always been a contentious issue, and teachers and unions alike express much concern, there does need to be some way of assessing the progress of children throughout their school lives. As teachers, most of us would feel that we are constantly, informally assessing the progress and development of each child. Indeed, this shapes the way we help them to progress and how we plan our teaching.

However, questions abound. How is the assessment of each child best done?

How do we know that schools are doing the best job they can? How do we balance the needs of the child with tests that are in danger of being more about results for the school than for the good of the children? In fairness, these are questions that governments have, no doubt, grappled with for many years.

Behind front doors throughout the land, SATs week in May is approached and experienced in different ways. Two of my children are sufficiently old enough to have experienced both Key Stage 1 and 2 tests and, if I am honest, they didn't really bat an eyelid. By the time they sat the latter tests, they had been through the London Day School exams for a senior school place and were quite familiar with the routine. In fact, they seemed to find it quite fun and one of them mentioned that it was all 'rather quiet and peaceful' and 'you could just get on with what you had to do'. Other parents have found that their children have been very upset and stressed by the whole experience and, for

them, it has been a difficult ordeal.

So, at the start of this school year, as parents the three terms will be marked with the usual cycle of plays, concerts, parents evenings and test and exams, whatever the age of our children. If we are generous, we will embrace the sentiment of testing as inevitability in

life. Parents of young children will hope that final decisions regarding the reintroduction of formal testing are considered in the light of not only driving up standards in schools,

but also for the best educational reasons for each child.

In the meantime, we can try to ensure that our children remain as fulfilled and happy in their day to day school life and gently understand that what is important is doing the best that you can do yourself – with or without tests.

The reintroduction of formal testing should be for the best educational reasons

Sue Laidlaw is Senior Partner of Laidlaw Education and its divisions.
Contact support@laidlaweducation.co.uk
or 020 8487 9517



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Thursday 8 October at 10.15am

Wednesday 4 November at 1.15pm

Monday 16 November at 1.15pm

Wednesday 25 November at 1.15pm

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BUILDING BRIDGES

Does tutoring reflect badly on schools? One award-winning company shows how the two can complement each other perfectly

BY MARK KEBBLE



The next Enjoy Education event will offer an insight into life at Wetherby Prep

For a service that does receive bad press from time to time, tutoring is very much in demand and on the rise. One London-based company, Enjoy Education, is at the forefront of the industry and will next year celebrate its tenth anniversary – but don't think for a second they are here as a replacement for schools.

'It's not us or them, it's not tutoring versus schools,' insists Enjoy Education's founder, Kate Shand (right). 'Schools do a great job in terms of providing a place where children go every day – they are interacting with each other and they are covering content. Schools are hampered by the inherent nature of their set up, which is that they are sometimes dealing with very large classes of students, whereas we focus on one to one support.'

Enjoy Education boasts a selection of top tutors who can help children achieve top results at all levels, including pre-school preparation, 7/8+, 11+, 13+, GCSE, A Level and Oxbridge preparation. But the fact that they also host a series of events with top Headteachers speaking suggests that the work they do is not seen as a criticism or as a means of replacing our schools. 'It's a wonderful way for them to be talking about their school, and parents love it because they have direct access to these Heads in a relaxed setting – but can still

ask difficult questions,' Kate says. 'We pick all sorts of different schools, whether it's co-ed and single sex schools, or boarding and day schools, as parents are often in that situation where they haven't yet decided what is best for their

child. It goes back to one of my primary reasons for setting up Enjoy Education: we want to inform parents about their children's education as much as provide tuition, because when parents understand the system they can relax and that feeds through to the children.'

The next event will be held at Knightsbridge's Royal Thames Yacht Club on 29 September and again has a high quality

line-up. 'We are delighted that Vivienne Durham from Francis Holland School, Nick Baker of Wetherby Prep, and Richard Harman from Uppingham will be speaking,' Kate says. 'It will be fascinating. Vivienne runs an all girls' secondary school, Richard runs a co-ed boarding school and Nick is launching Wetherby Secondary School in September. It will be an exciting opportunity for parents to understand better the pros and cons of these types of education.'

Enjoy Education were also one of the founders of The Tutors' Association, launched three years ago, who had a

well-respected guest at their second AGM recently. 'Dr Tim Hands from Magdalen College School came to speak and that was wonderful,' Kate recounts. 'He spoke freely about all of us having a shared goal of building a child's confidence and it was a great moment showing how schools and tutoring companies can support each other. There will always be a healthy tension between the two, but at the same time what I do like is that schools are more open to collaborating with tutoring companies and we already work in-house with a number of schools in London.'

With a big anniversary to be celebrated next year, Enjoy Education show no signs of slowing down. There are plans afoot to help low income families apply to Oxbridge, more involvement at primary school level with children whose families can't afford one-to-one tutoring, and continuing a partnership with the charity Chance UK. As Kate sums up: 'Tutoring can be so powerful and life-changing.'

For more details on the 29 September event, and what Enjoy Education offer, visit enjoyeducation.co.uk or call 020 7352 8800



Schools are more open to collaborating with tutoring companies. We have a shared goal



Nick Baker,
Head of
Wetherby Prep



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Girls' Day
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Open Days

Saturday 10th October 2015

Sessions 10am-12pm or 1pm-3pm

Saturday 5th March 2016

10am-12pm only

Sixth Form Open Evening

Thursday 15th October 2015
5pm

Main entry points at Nursery, Reception, 11 plus and Sixth Form with entry considered in other years, subject to availability. School mini-bus from and to Chiswick from September 2015.

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Shakespeare's Globe run a host of workshops for children all over London

GOLDEN GLOBE

Next year marks 400 years since the death of Shakespeare – but as the Director of Globe Education writes, he is alive and well in schools

BY PATRICK SPOTTISWOODE

Ben Jonson wrote that Shakespeare was 'not of an age but for all time'. He felt the same about himself. He had the vanity to publish his own plays – with some poems and classical translations – in a grand Folio edition in 1616, the year Shakespeare died. Seven years later, two actors, Heminges and Condell, decided to publish Shakespeare's plays together in Folio, too.

Did Shakespeare think his plays 'were for all time'? Probably not. Plays were considered ephemeral (from the Greek 'epi-hemera', meaning 'for a day') rather than having lasting value. Most plays of the period have not survived.

However, 450 years after his birth, Shakespeare's plays are more popular than ever before. Now translated into over 100 languages, they have been re-interpreted as opera, film, ballet, musical, painting and cartoon. Shakespeare is an international brand – his lines are used and abused on a daily basis. The tea towel and fridge magnet industries thrive thanks to Shakespeare quotes. Even his image is exploited. I admit to owning a Shakespeare rubber



duck and a Shakespeare corkscrew, part of a growing tat collection that would make for an interesting exhibition.

Shakespeare could never have imagined that his plays would be food for a national curriculum or studied at desks in classrooms. Fellow playwright John Marston argued that his plays were written to be performed rather than read. It is the classroom reading of Shakespeare's plays that put so many students (and teachers) off. It may have put you off Shakespeare, too.

However, the teaching of Shakespeare has improved dramatically over recent years. Increasingly the plays are being taught through performance and as scripts for actors that are open to a range of interpretations. A host of film as well

as stage versions are available to support classroom teaching while theatre organisations, like Shakespeare's Globe, are drawing on rehearsal room practice to animate workshops for all.

These approaches are opening up the plays, encouraging students to seek their own interpretations. Yes, the vocabulary can be difficult because some of the words are so 'old', but it was often difficult for Shakespeare's actors, too, because some of his words were 'new'.

However, the issues that Shakespeare explores in the plays are neither old nor new, but 'for all time'. His plays have become universal stories that people across the world can share and discuss. Everyone should have the opportunity to meet Shakespeare. One advantage of having Shakespeare on the curriculum is that every student is given that opportunity. As long as that meeting is, as Shakespeare intended, playful.

There is meaning in play.

Patrick Spottiswoode is Director of Globe Education at Shakespeare's Globe. Find out more by visiting shakespearesglobe.com/education

ORCHARD HOUSE SCHOOL

**Open Day on
Saturday 3rd October 2015,
9.30 – 12 noon**

Orchard House School is a long-established and successful IAPS co-educational prep school in Bedford Park, Chiswick for children aged 3 to 11. The school is non-selective at age three or four. Within a friendly but purposeful atmosphere, each child is encouraged to attain his or her personal best. Exam results have been excellent and the school is proud of its reputation established over many years.

In addition to regular weekly tours, the school is holding an Open Day on Saturday 3rd October 2015, 9.30 am – 12 noon when we shall be delighted to welcome prospective parents wishing to:

- See the school in action
- View the excellent facilities in both buildings
- Meet the staff and pupils

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please contact the school office on 020 8742 8544**

Details of scholarships to the school occasionally awarded by the independent charity House Schools Trust to gifted children, currently at a maintained school and aged 7 or over on 1st September in each year, are also available either from the school or at the website www.houseschoolstrust.org



ORCHARD HOUSE SCHOOL

16 Newton Grove, Chiswick, London W4 1LB

also at 2 Rupert Road, Chiswick, London W4 1LX

Tel: 020 8742 8544

info@orchardhs.org.uk www.orchardhs.org.uk



RAVENSCOURT PARK
preparatory school



An Independent School for Boys and Girls aged 4-11

Our pupils now enjoy a new theatre, library, specialist facilities for art, music and science and a new suite of teaching areas.

"The school fulfils its mission to offer children the opportunity to succeed, to be recognised and to be valued. It achieves its aim to develop the intellectual, emotional and ethical requirements to tackle the challenges that life will present... they nurture, guide, motivate and inspire, and it is a school of smiles and laughter where there is much fun to be had."

Independent Schools Inspectorate 2010

Open Mornings

9:30am Thursday, 17th September 2015

9:30am Thursday, 15th October 2015

9:30am Tuesday, 17th November 2015

To register your attendance at one of our open mornings,
please phone 0208 846 9153 or mail secretary@rpps.co.uk

Ravenscourt Park Prep School

16 Ravenscourt Avenue, London W6 0SL

www.rpps.co.uk



Seek out as many pupils as you can when attending open days

EYE OF THE BEHOLDER

From asking the right questions to tracking down pupils, here's an insider's guide to school open days

Words SUE LAIDLAW



At this time of year, some of you will be preparing for the open day season, the round of school visits that will be followed by a sifting through of thoughts, a shortlist of prospective schools and form filling, and sending of registrations fees and all that follows. Perhaps you are ahead of the game and taking an early look at schools for the future for your little ones; maybe you are in the last term before entrance exams take place or somewhere in the middle. Alternatively, you may be looking at Prep School or Sixth Forms. In essence, the process is the same and a few tips and an observant eye can prepare you well for what is on offer.

When advising the many hundreds of parents who come through our doors seeking the best school for their child, the key advice is always the same — ensure that you find the school that is right for your child and where your child is right for it. 'All very well!' they might say. 'But how do we know which one that might be?'

Open days are clearly one way of getting a 'feel' for the school that might one day take your child as a pupil. As the visiting outsider, I think that most of us are aware that books are strategically chosen and pupils selected accordingly and, although these things do clearly give a sense of the school, it is wise to look beyond the obvious. Wonderful facilities are very important, but don't be completely seduced by new buildings and amazing facilities. Likewise, and understandably, many of the talks that are given by Heads and senior staff speak of the best of exams results and the greatest achievements. However, the wisest of these professionals will also give a sense of reality as to who is best suited to their school and why.

So what is there to observe beyond the obvious? Firstly, take a look and have a listen to the other parents around

you. Are they the sort of people that could become your friends? Trust your instinct and that little voice inside. The pupil who shows you round can influence your opinion for better or worse, so try to speak to a few. Try to

stay neutral and be aware of this, but do ask lots of questions. Your guide will know what goes on day in day out, so a few carefully worded questions can provide much insight.

Finally, if you have the opportunity visit the school on a non-open day. A regular school day can give you a great deal more: look at the wall displays, observe how the pupils interact in class, how the teachers teach... all this will speak volumes. At the end of it all, it is always about finding the most appropriate environment in which to enable your child to thrive.

Find the school that is right for your child and where your child is right for it

Find out more at laidlaweducation.co.uk



KEW GREEN
preparatory school



An Independent School for Boys and Girls aged 4-11

"My children run to school as if it were their first day. I owe it to you and your colleagues. Kew Green Preparatory exudes a comfortable, confident, nurturing and safe aura, where I feel my children delight in being the bright, chirpy and playful individuals that they are."

Parent of Children in Years 3 & 6

Open Mornings

9:15am Wednesday,
9th September 2015

9:15am Wednesday,
4th November 2015

9:15am Wednesday,
7th October 2015

9:15am Wednesday,
18th November 2015

To register your attendance at one of our open mornings, please phone 020 8948 5999 or mail secretary@kgps.co.uk

Kew Green Preparatory School

Layton House, Ferry Lane, Kew Green, Richmond TW9 3AF
www.kgps.co.uk



The Kindergartens are delighted to announce that they are opening two new nursery schools in Holland Park, W14 and Aubrey Walk, W8. These will be sister nurseries to their highly successful Pooh Corner Kindergarten in SW7.

The new kindergartens will offer a very exciting and unrivalled education. Morning places are available now.

**Pooh Corner Kindergarten, Holland Park,
The Crypt, St John The Baptist Church,
Holland Park, London W14**

**Pooh Corner Kindergarten, Kensington
St George's Church, Aubrey Walk,
Campden Hill, London W8**

Please Call The Kindergarten Office For Details

01622 833331

www.thekindergartens.com

"...the earliest age is the most important one for education, because the beginning decides the manner of the progress and the end."

Fredrick Froebel

Unlocking potential

*The secrets to the success of
Keystone Study Clubs*



What are Keystone Study Clubs?

Keystone Study Clubs are small after school classes in English and Maths for children aged 6 to 11. They are a fun and affordable way for children to make progress in their numeracy and literacy, building their self-confidence in working with both subject areas. A lot of thought has gone into the way they've designed each lesson so that the exercises are both invigorating and beautifully illustrated. Rather than sit through joyless worksheets or computer programmes, students in their Study Clubs are taught by outstanding and inspiring teachers to the highest standard. Feedback is regular, detailed and highly individual.

Where?

Keystone has been based just off Brook Green for a number of years, and is run by enthusiastic locals. They designed the Study Clubs with the thought in mind: how can we make outstanding after-school support available to local families at an affordable price? Study Clubs are a way of ensuring that children receive top-notch, inspiring teaching, without it costing the earth.

Who are the tutors?

Keystone recruits intelligent and likeable tutors who are graduates from leading universities. While it is a truism that intelligence does not

make you a good tutor, we only pick tutors who are passionate and knowledgeable about their subjects and love imparting knowledge to their students.

How much?

Study Clubs cost £25 per hour. However, an initial assessment with our Centre Director is completely free and we are offering a first lesson free to readers of School Report. Just mention this article when you book.

For more details visit
keystonestudyclubs.com
or call 020 7602 5310



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Radnor House, Pope's Villa Cross Deep, Twickenham, TW1 4QG

SENIOR SCHOOL

Saturday 3 October 2015
9.30am, 12.00pm and 2.30pm

Saturday 14 November 2015
9.30am, 12.00pm and 2.30pm

SIXTH FORM

Tuesday 6 October 2015
6.00-8.00pm



Claremont Fan Court School

An independent co-educational school for pupils aged 2½ to 18 years

Open Mornings

Whole School - 10.00am-12.30pm

Introductory talk at 10.00am

Saturday 19 September

Saturday 3 October



Sixth Form Open Evening

Monday 28 September at 6.00pm



For further information, tel **01372 473624**
or email info@claremont.surrey.sch.uk



www.claremont-school.co.uk

PERSONAL PARADISE

The Seychelles is a melting pot of different cultures, meaning a unique experience with something for everyone

Words VICKY SMITH

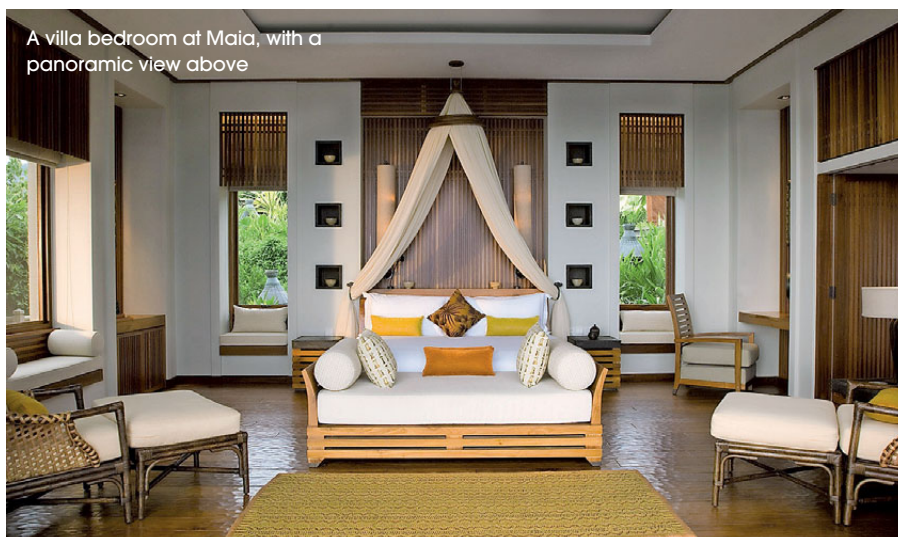
The Seychelles was uninhabited throughout most of recorded history. As you swoop in to land on Mahé – this Indian Ocean archipelago's largest island – you can't help but think that everybody was missing a trick: the sun is shining, turquoise waters lap gently against white sands, and jungle-covered hills and mountains rise up dramatically. It is, quite literally, paradise.

The French were the first to wake up to the beauty of the Seychelles, and there's still a Gallic influence apparent, most obvious in the nation's first language, Seychellois Creole. Not ones to be left out, the Brits soon came knocking, and our influence is still apparent too, with English also spoken by much of the population.

That's where the European feel begins and ends though. The Seychelles is a beautifully unique place, with a friendly, frivolous spirit more commonly associated with the Caribbean, and the kind of dramatic, jaw-dropping scenery you'd expect in South East Asia.

To really make the most of the country's incredible landscapes, it's a wise move to book into a smaller place to stay, somewhere that enhances your stunning surroundings, instead of dominating them. We were bowled over by Maia Resort and Spa, a boutique luxury resort on Mahé comprising just 30 villas nestled on a hillside overlooking an endless blue horizon.

Set in 30 acres of gardens brimming with an array of fragrant indigenous



A villa bedroom at Maia, with a panoramic view above

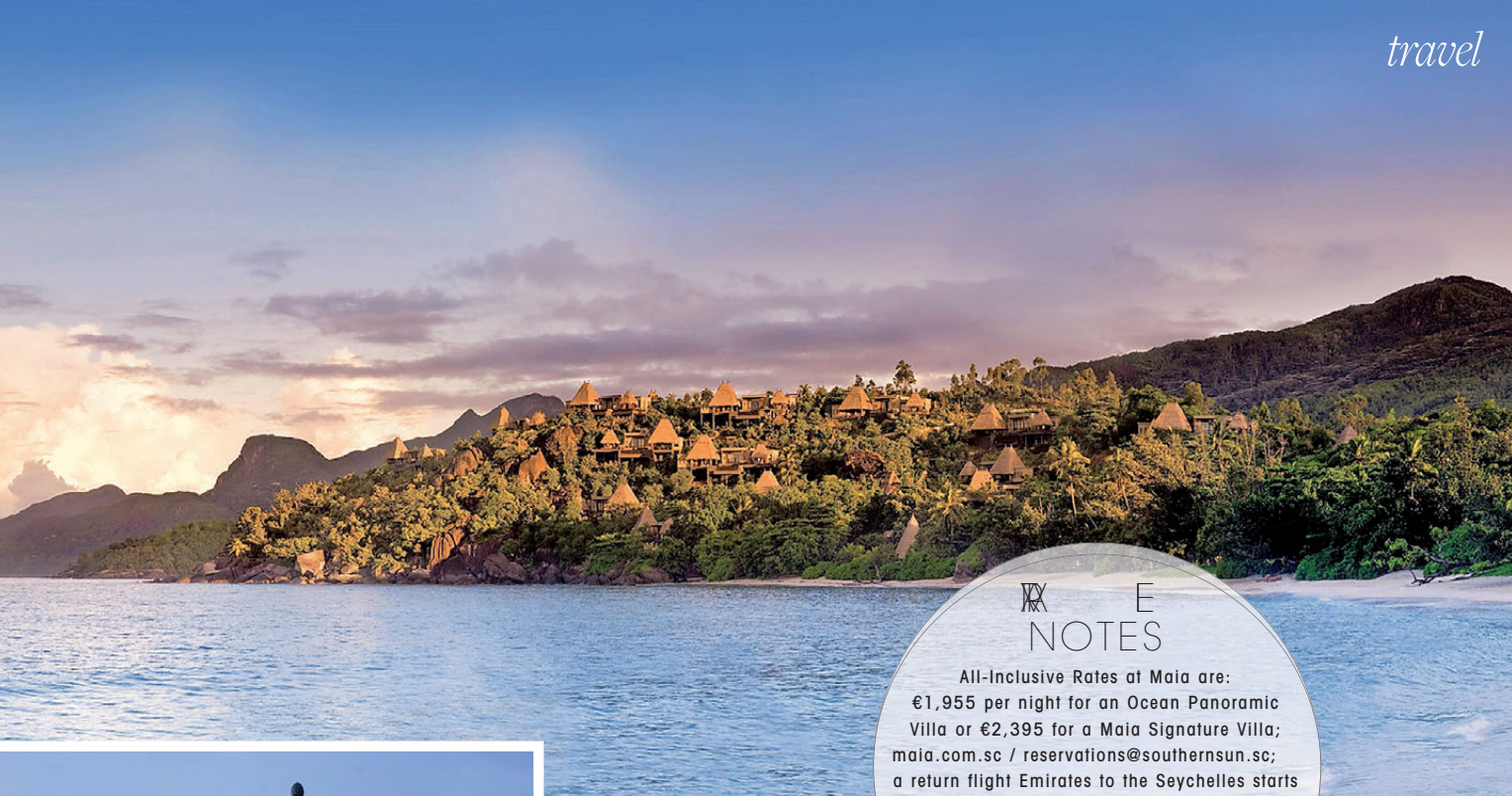
plants – think cinnamon, eucalyptus and lemongrass – this undeniably luxurious destination still feels authentic, and takes pride in complementing its natural surroundings. There's nothing overtly flashy, but you can be secure in the knowledge that your every need is catered for in a way that surpasses all expectations.

From the comfort of your 'so big I can't believe my eyes' villa (which comes complete with two infinity pools, outside bathtub, bar and terrace), you can plan your next few days in paradise with the assistance of your dedicated butler, and make the most of Maia's 'beyond all inclusive' concept.

Yes, this is all inclusive, but not as we know it – as you'd expect, the food and drinks are unlimited (within reason – if you choose to splash out on a bottle of Krug extra costs are, understandably,



The chef rustles up some tasty local dishes

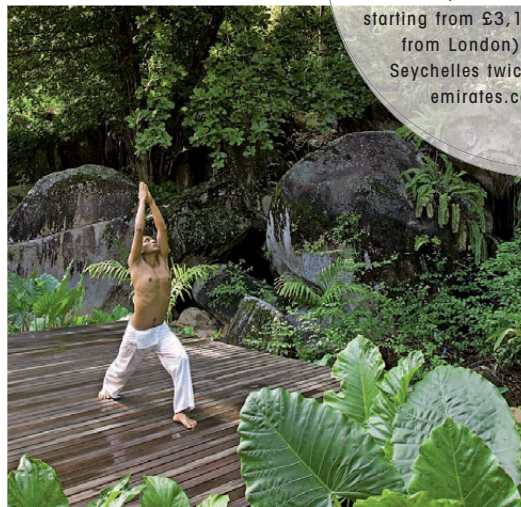


XX E NOTES

All-Inclusive Rates at Maia are:
 €1,955 per night for an Ocean Panoramic
 Villa or €2,395 for a Maia Signature Villa;
maia.com.sc / reservations@southernsun.sc;
 a return flight Emirates to the Seychelles starts
 from £781, with Business Class return fares
 starting from £3,189 (based on departure
 from London). Emirates fly to the
 Seychelles twice daily. Bookings via
emirates.com or 0344 800
 2777



The signature villa with its own infinity pool – and quite a view



All this bliss is hard to drag yourself away from, but exploring as much of the Seychelles as you can is obviously a priority. The country is actually made up of 115 islands, but the main three – Mahé, Praslin and La Digue – are where most visitors head. Take a boat trip to visit the giant tortoises on La Digue, or

the resort's blissfully idyllic beach.

There's also a beachside restaurant and bar serving an array of international and local dishes – don't leave without trying island specialities such as bread fruit crisps and grilled red snapper – and for those with a taste for a drop or two of wine, Maia's Wine

Boutique is an unexpected, and pretty magical, experience: resident sommelier Laurent will guide you through a tasting session before you settle in for dinner with just your favourite bottle and the sunset for company. A stand-out spa offering treatments in outdoor rooms enhances the Maia experience even further. Your massage or facial will be accompanied by a soundtrack provided by chirping birds and trickling waterfalls.

*Your experience is
based around a
wherever, whenever,
whatever philosophy*

recline on the deserted beaches of Praslin, where you can also while-away an afternoon under the gentle waves, visiting the incredible array of underwater wildlife. Back on dry land, you might be lucky enough to spot a family of native fruit bats asleep in the trees, the mother's wings unfolding to reveal snoozing babies.

Returning to Mahé, you can hike around the national parks, botanical gardens, bird sanctuaries or

take a trip to the capital city, Victoria, where there's a lively fruit, vegetable and fish market to investigate, as well as a beautiful Hindu temple and – in another nod to the British influence – a miniature Big Ben in the town centre. A reminder of what you're not missing back home...

incurred), but don't for a second let the word 'buffet' enter into your head. And as for crowds of cocktail-guzzling tourists crowding the bar? Forget it. This is simply not that kind of party.

They base your experience around a 'Wherever, Whenever, Whatever' philosophy, so your holiday is catered to exactly what you want, as opposed to what they think you might want. This could range from a candle-lit dinner for two on the helipad (where the stars are so close you feel like you could easily reach up and touch them), to a picnic on

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Enjoy the splendour of Georgian Bath at the Royal Crescent hotel

EXE NOTES

The Royal Crescent Hotel is a member of the Relais & Châteaux group. Overnight b&b stays at the hotel start from £230. For further information visit relaischateaux.com/royalcrescent or call 0800 344 5087

48 HOURS IN BATH

Treat someone special to a trip to Bath and a stay at the glorious Royal Crescent Hotel

Words VICKY MAYER

As a dyed-in-the-wool Londoner it takes a lot for me to be impressed by something outside our glorious city, but looking out from the window of our suite at the Royal Crescent Hotel across Victoria Park and beyond to the Somerset hills, the idea of moving out of the big smoke actually crossed my mind.

I'm not the first person of course to be entranced by this picturesque city with its elegant Georgian houses, built with sandy limestone, and picture postcard streets. Add to that the famous Roman Baths, the Pump Room, plus plenty of cool places to eat and drink and you've got the perfect destination for a two night break from London.

The five star Royal Crescent is the perfect place to stay, offering visitors a slice of modern Georgian living. Just ten minutes from the city centre, this smart hotel is the perfect base for your visit.

Unlike so many other five star hotels that have stripped away their character, the Royal Crescent positively revels in its sense of history and the rooms are sumptuously decorated with fabulous furnishings. We pushed the boat out and stayed in a roomy Deluxe Suite, complete with a delightful 'princess and



The hotel's suites are roomy and sumptuous

I'm not the first person of course to be entranced by this picturesque city

the pea' four poster bed.

For weary Londoners the hotel offers the perfect sanctuary – the AA 3 Rosette restaurant Dover House offers delicious contemporary fare while the spa and indoor pool and sauna will help you relax instantly. The jewel in the crown though is the hotel's elegant walled garden where a glass of champagne and a cream tea should be compulsory.

Spend a 'lost' 24 hours in the hotel and the following day you'll be ready to explore the cobbled delights of this fair

city. Aside from the must-visit Baths, I loved No 1 Royal Crescent (no1royalcrescent.org.uk), a perfectly preserved Georgian house which showcases Bath's illustrious past.

Nearby Bristol's urban vibe seems to have hit Bath too with cool coffee shops and cafes run by bearded hipsters springing up everywhere. The sun shone, the food was great and the people friendly. What can I say? Just be sure to avoid the estate agents' windows if you know what's good for you!



Wind down in the indoor pool and spa

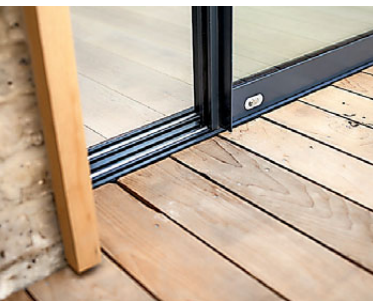


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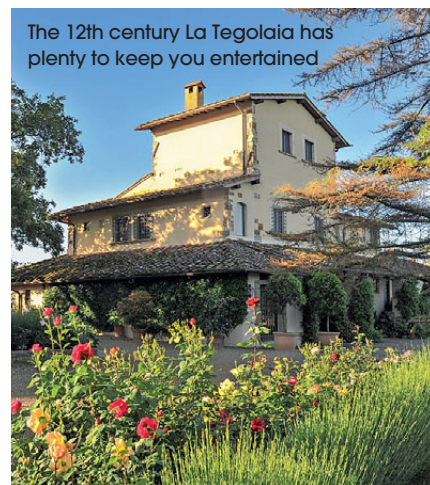
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Tuscany Now offer tours
of stunning Florence



The 12th century La Tegolaia has plenty to keep you entertained



LOST IN TRANSLATION

Culture, celebrations and cuisine: why one weekend in Florence just isn't enough

Words MARK KEBBLE

As a torrent of sweat poured down my forehead, I couldn't help but think of Alan Partridge's encounter with a scolding apple pastry ('It's hotter than the sun!'). I am at the Florence wedding of a good friend, in my groomsman's suit, in 40 degrees and in the full glare of that pesky sun. Hot doesn't do it justice.

For 48 hours solid, the weather in the Tuscan capital was sensational, without a cloud in the sky. Out of the suit, I lapped every little bit of it up as my wife and I packed as much as we could into a short period of time. We came in via Pisa airport and were whisked straight off, courtesy of Tuscany Now, to Florence itself, a beautiful, historic city with lots of stories to tell. The best way to hear those, without a doubt, was on a half day cultural guided tour by Barchetto, a distinctive Florentine boat similar to a gondola. It was fascinating to learn about the history

of the Arno River, from WWII attacks to famous film stars plying their trade.

An hour's drive later and we were at our home for the next two days, La Tegolaia near to the village of Pelago. Now, thanks to the aforementioned wedding, this was the weekend we had to visit and Tuscany Now could only put us up in a seven bedroom villa with sweeping views of vineyards and rolling hills (we grudgingly accepted, of course). A 12th century villa, La Tegolaia has an old world charm with endless doors



leading to yet another room (our first night, ridiculously, almost saw us get lost). As well as the seven bedrooms, there are eight bathrooms, a separate pool house, dining room, sitting room, kitchenette and al fresco dining areas, which in itself leads to a world of cypress and olive trees, deckchairs, a swimming pool and more. It's fair to say that there was enough for two people.

Although self-catering – we were rather proud of our toast and jam on the first morning – Tiziano, the 'caretaker', was there for the majority of time at La Tegolaia. I write 'caretaker' because he whipped up the most astonishing meal on our first night: spaghetti vongole to start, a wonderfully fresh sea bream to follow, before finishing with a never-ending chocolate mousse (although we did our best to finish it), plus conjured up a stunning brunch that beat the hangover post-wedding.

Amusingly, Tiziano spoke very little English (the owners are stationed next door, who do speak English), which was the cue for some rather random conversations between him and yours truly. Whatever the subject, we got there in the end, but my wife mentioned that it reminded her of a scene straight out of Alan Partridge. Comedy gold, perhaps, but as Norwich's finest would also say about the delights of Tuscany: 'Back of the net.'

Discover hand-picked villas and destinations in Tuscany and Italy through Tuscany Now. For the latest information, call 020 7684 8888 or visit tuscanynow.com

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A five-bedroom, double-fronted detached period house on St Mary's Grove

Contemporary meets classic in this stunning double-fronted period property on St Mary's Grove, W4. Immaculate interiors combined with a perfect balance of living and entertaining space give this home a superior edge. Guide Price £2,395,000.

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Aykon Nine Elms will be the first project of scale in London to be designed by a luxury fashion house

PROPERTY NEWS

Your update on London's homes & interiors

Tom Cruise penthouse

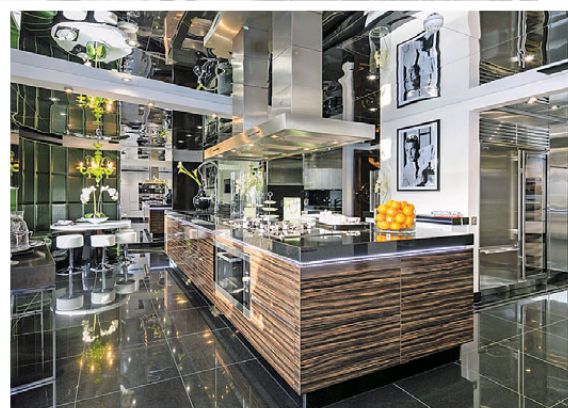
Is this the most glamorous penthouse on the London market? Paul Davies London has transformed the entire top floor of the residential building Wellington Court into a unique 10,000 sq ft apartment. Boasting the largest private Hyde Park rooftop terrace of any Knightsbridge penthouse along with bespoke Great Gatsby inspired Art Deco interiors, the property offers six-bedrooms, including a master suite with his and hers dressing and bathing rooms, and is on the market for £35m with Mayfair agent Wetherell.

Formerly the Second Duke of Wellington's Riding School, Wellington Court was first developed in the 19th century and was the original prestigious parkside development. High-profile residents have recently included Tom Cruise, who rented the penthouse as his London pied-à-terre.

wetherell.co.uk



The penthouse occupies the entire top floor





VAUXHALL MEETS VERSACE

If there was any doubt that Vauxhall was one of, if not the, rising star of our capital, the latest luxury property launch puts it firmly on the glamour map. Swanky interior design has long been utilised to make high-end developments stand out from the rest, but this new project from Dico UK, a subsidiary of Middle East developer Damac, has brought in the big guns with no less than Versace providing a new

level of glamour for London.

Located in a prime spot overlooking the Thames, Aykon Nine Elms will be the first of Damac's branded residences in the capital, and will play a major part in the 195-acre regeneration of the Battersea area.

With prices from £700,000 to £4m, the tower will offer two- and three-bedroom apartments, plus studios and penthouses, while the all-important residents' amenities will include a gym, indoor pool, spa, roof garden and cinema.

The project marks significant expansion for Versace. 'It's

the ultimate expression of our lifestyle concept,' explains CEO Gian Giacomo Ferraris. 'Comfort will become our lifestyle.'

'Donatella Versace is able to customise and tailor design for every interior space,' he adds. 'It's a tailor-made project which will focus on a glamorous, bold and colourful DNA'.

So, if you fancy adding a property to your Versace fashion collection, look no further – you'll have to be patient, however, as the project isn't due for completion until 2020.

Aykonproperties.com



HUF HAUS launches UK show house

Fans of *Grand Designs* will be no stranger to the fabulous HUF HAUS brand of pre-manufactured timber and glass homes that are renowned for their precise German engineering and fast efficient builds, not to mention contemporary style. Now the first ever UK show house has been launched in Brooklands, Surrey.

Building on the company's history of sustainable construction, as well as the sumptuous interiors and high-end features associated with HUF HAUS design, the show house realises the concept of eco-luxury, integrating sustainability and sophisticated engineering to prove that a luxury home doesn't have to sacrifice environmental

consciousness. With over a century of experience refining HUF HAUS architecture and more than 15 years of building in the UK, the show house unveils the new technology on offer – indeed, the show house is likely to be the most engineered house in the UK.

'Our first UK show house demonstrates the architectural and technological advances achieved by the HUF HAUS engineers,' comments CEO Georg Huf. 'Functions such as the heating with ice system that were beyond our comprehension when we began building in the UK 18 years' ago now come as standard as we strive to pioneer zero carbon efficiency.'

huf-haus.com

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SWORN & CO LAUNCHES NEW LOOK

Your local, independent and family run Estate Agency reveals fresh new look

Since 1879, Sworn & Co (originally A J Fowkes) have been assisting clients and applicants in West London, with all aspects of estate agency. Not only do Sworn & Co provide Sales and Lettings services but are also highly experienced Block and Estate Managers and with the expertise of their resident Chartered Surveyor, they are able to offer Lease Extensions and Party Wall Awards.

Originally situated at 230 Chiswick High Road (now Poundland), then at 150 Chiswick High Road (the recently opened Maverick and Wolf), Sworn & Co relocated to their current office at 194 Chiswick High Road in 1992 and is a well-recognised local landmark.

The Sworn & Co logo and image has barely changed since then and it was decided that it was a great time to update the brand but of course keep the values and ideals that has kept Sworn & Co in business for the last 136 years.

Sworn & Co are committed to giving you the best advice whether you are looking for a professional valuation, lease extension, to sell, buy or rent or



Our experienced team, the majority of which live in Chiswick, have a wealth of local property knowledge

even to manage your property or indeed a whole estate.

‘Many of our clients come to us initially as they want a more personal service than they have been receiving from a chain,’ says Tim Sworn. ‘We benefit by being an independent, small business as our staff do not frequently change and we endeavour to look after every property as if it was our own.’

‘Our experienced team, the majority

of which live in Chiswick or the surrounding areas and have a wealth of knowledge about the local property market and first-hand experience of living in West London. This includes details about the local schools, transport links, shops, bars and restaurants all of which provides a much better service for our client’.

For further information please call 020 8994 0081 or pop into the Sworn & Co office at 194 Chiswick High Road, W4 1PD

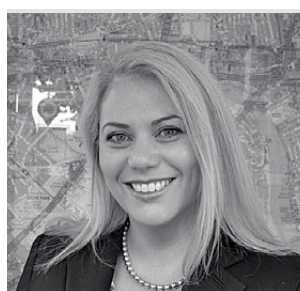
MEET THE TEAM



TIM SWORN, MRICS
CHARTERED SURVEYOR



SAMANTHA SWORN
PROPERTY MANAGER



BECKY SWORN
LETTINGS DIRECTOR



STEPHEN HARDY
SALES DIRECTOR



South Parade, W4

£2,250,000

A charming Grade II Listed five double bedroom family house located on a sought after residential road in Bedford Park. Offering a private garden and gated off street parking.

- Grade II Listed house
- Five double bedrooms

- Two bathrooms
- Ample living space

- Secluded garden
- Gated off street parking



Cygnet House, W4

£2,500,000

A Grade II Listed Georgian house offering four double bedrooms, a patio garden, a private garage to the rear and a south facing front garden leading on to the river Thames, energy rating e.

- Four double bedrooms
- Double reception room
- Two bath/shower rooms
- Access to the river Thames
- Patio garden
- Garage



Arlington Gardens, W4

£1,725,000

A four double bedroom Victorian family home with 2,207 sq. ft of accommodation. Offering three bath/shower rooms, a 45 ft. garden and off street parking for two cars, energy rating c.

- Development opportunity
- Four bedrooms
- Three bath/shower rooms
- Two kitchen/dining rooms
- 45 ft. garden
- Off street parking



Stamford Brook Road, W6

£2,150,000

This charming semi detached, Edwardian family home comprises five/six double bedrooms, three bath/shower rooms, three off street parking spaces and a 70' garden, energy rating f.

- Five/six bedrooms
- Three bath/shower rooms
- Through reception room
- Early Edwardian
- Semi detached
- 70' garden



Rusthall Avenue, W4

£1,600,000

A beautifully presented, Victorian family home consisting of four double bedrooms, a spacious reception room, two bath/shower rooms and a private west facing garden, energy rating d.

- Victorian house
- Four double bedrooms
- Two bath/shower rooms
- Large reception room
- West facing garden
- Bedford Park area



St Peters Square, W6

£2,650 pw

A charming five double bedroom family house located on a popular square in Chiswick. The property is ideally situated for access to Chiswick High Road and transport links, energy rating f.

- Five bedrooms
- Access to local amenities
- Period features
- Wood floors
- Two bathrooms
- Double reception room

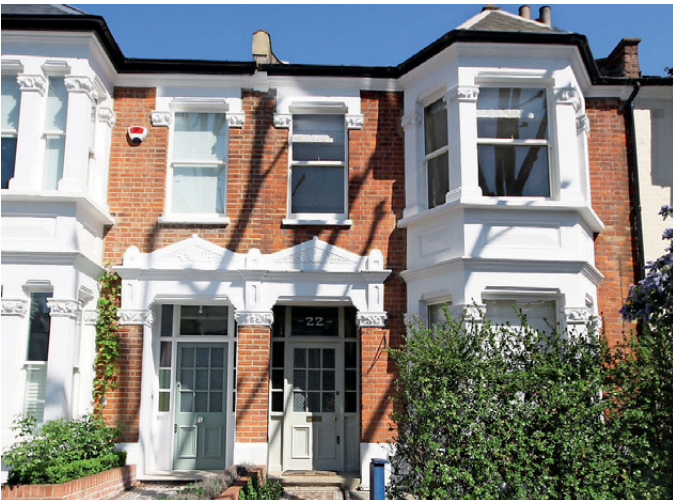


Marlborough Road, W4

£850 pw

A family home located in the Bedford Park area of Chiswick. Ideal for access to Turnham Green station and offering five bedrooms, a double reception room and a kitchen, energy rating e.

- Five bedrooms
- Double reception room
- Spacious kitchen
- Landscaped garden
- Two bathrooms
- Bedford park area



Prebend Gardens, W4

£950 pw

A spacious four bedroom family house ideally located for access to Chiswick High Road and Stamford Brook station. Offering a eat in kitchen and access to a private garden, energy rating e.

- Four bedrooms
- Finished to a high standard
- Large eat in kitchen
- Two bathrooms
- Private garden
- Access to transport links



Windmill Road, W4

£950 pw

A recently refurbished, three bedroom family house located on a popular residential road in Chiswick. Ideally located for access to Chiswick High Road and transport links, energy rating e.

- Three bedrooms
- Three bathrooms
- Modern kitchen
- Wood floors
- Chiswick High Road
- Private garden

Tenant fees apply: £180 inc. VAT per tenancy contribution to administration, £60 inc. VAT reference fee per tenant, £144 inc. VAT towards end of tenancy check out report.



Boston Manor, TW8

£2,500,000

A well presented, five double bedroom detached family home built in 1932 offering three spacious reception rooms, a sun room, a billiards room, a kitchen/breakfast room, a utility room and a large private garden, energy rating e.

Northfields Sales 020 8566 2340



Lammas Park, W13

£1,450,000

This Edwardian semi detached house benefits from 2,140 sq. ft of accommodation and is located on a sought after residential road. Comprising five bedrooms, three reception rooms, a private garden and off street parking, energy rating d.

Northfields Sales 020 8566 2340



Ealing, W13

£1,100,000

Offering almost 1,800 sq. ft of living space is this well proportioned, semi detached family home. Arranged over three floors, accommodation comprises six double bedrooms, two reception rooms, two bathrooms and a 24ft kitchen with a dining area, energy rating d.

Ealing Sales 020 8840 7677



Ealing, W5

£1,395,000

This charming art deco, semi detached family home comprises four double bedrooms, two spacious reception rooms, two family bathrooms and a modern kitchen. The property further benefits from private off street parking for several cars, energy rating d.

Ealing Sales 020 8840 7677



Acton, W3

£1,350,000

An Edwardian semi detached family home located on a sought after cul de sac in the heart of Acton. The property consists of six double bedrooms, two reception rooms and is ideally situated for local schools and transportation, energy rating d.

Acton Sales 020 8896 3996



Acton, W3

£1,600,000

A Victorian family home ideally located within the heart of Acton and offering over 2,000 sq. ft of living space. Accommodation comprises four/five bedrooms, three bathrooms and the potential to extend subject to planning, energy rating e.

Acton Sales 020 8896 3996



West Ealing, W13

£692 pw

A spacious five bedroom family house ideally located on the borders of Northfields and West Ealing. The property benefits from a modern kitchen with space for dining, a private garden and off street parking, energy rating e.

Northfields Lettings 020 8280 2800



Northfields, W13

£923 pw

A semi detached family home located on a sought after tree lined residential road in Ealing. This property comprises a spacious reception room, a large kitchen which has been extended to create ample living space and a private garden, energy rating d.

Northfields Lettings 020 8280 2800



Ealing, W5

£1,616 pw

This eight bedroom family home features a spacious kitchen/dining room, three reception rooms, eight double bedrooms and four contemporary bathrooms. Further benefits include a large private garden, off street parking and a cellar, energy rating f.

Ealing Lettings 020 8840 7885



Ealing, W5

£1,153 pw

This well presented, five double bedroom family home features an open plan kitchen, a separate reception room and three family bathrooms. Further benefits include ample storage and a large private rear garden, energy rating c.

Ealing Lettings 020 8840 7885



Acton, W3

£806 pw

A recently refurbished, four bedroom family house arranged over two floors. The property boasts ample living space and offers a large kitchen/dining room, a private garden, a spacious double reception and a study room energy rating c.

Acton Lettings 020 8896 3996



Acton, W3

£735 pw

This well proportioned family home is arranged over three floors and consists of a spacious kitchen/dining room with direct garden access, two large reception rooms and a separate WC. Ideal for access to local amenities, energy rating c.

Acton Lettings 020 8896 3996

Tenant fees apply: £180 inc. VAT per tenancy contribution to administration, £60 inc. VAT reference fee per tenant, £144 inc. VAT towards end of tenancy check out report.

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HAYMILLS ESTATE – EALING

£1,350,000

A superbly-appointed Haymills residence with accommodation on two floors and lovely landscaped rear garden.

- 2 communicating reception rooms
- Study
- Conservatory
- Kitchen / family room
- 4 bedrooms
- 2 bathrooms
- En suite shower room
- Garage
- Forecourt parking
- EPC=D



GOLDEN MANOR – HANWELL

£1,499,999

A 6-bedroom, well-presented Victorian residence with commodious accommodation on three floors with parkland views to the rear.

- 2 reception rooms
- Stylish kitchen
- Study
- Ground-floor cloakroom
- Cellar
- 6 bedrooms
- 2 bathrooms
- West-facing rear garden
- Double-gated front garden with drive-in
- EPC=F



MONTPELIER PARK AREA – EALING

£2,475,000 – NO CHAIN

A detached, double-fronted late Victorian residence with accommodation on three floors with beautiful south-east facing garden.

- Double reception room
- Orangery / garden room
- Kitchen / breakfast room
- Basement with four rooms
- Conservatory
- 5 bedrooms
- Bathroom
- En suite bath / shower room
- Forecourt parking
- EPC=F

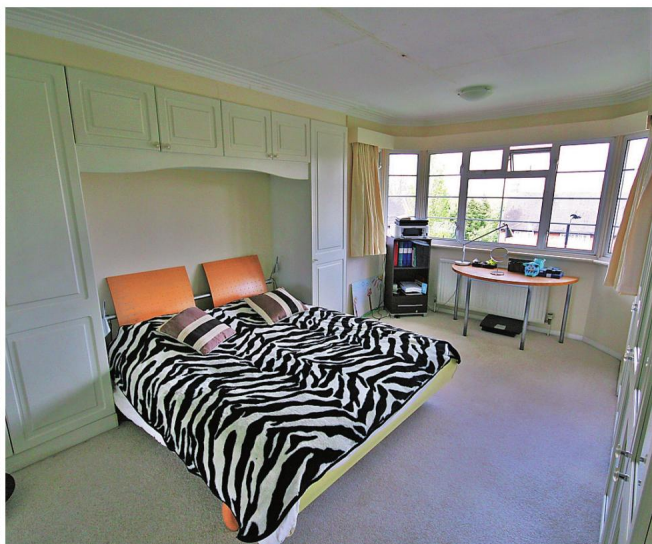


CLEVELAND PARK AREA – EALING

£1,195,000

A semi-detached, double-fronted Edwardian residence with superbly-appointed accommodation on three floors.

- Lounge
- Family room
- Kitchen open-plan with dining room
- Ground-floor cloakroom
- 4 bedrooms
- Stylish bathroom
- South-west facing rear garden
- Home office at the rear of garden
- Many period details
- EPC=E



EALING W5

£1,400,000 FREEHOLD

A beautifully appointed detached family home on the Haymills Estate. The property has been extended into the roof space and on the ground floor to create a wonderful through space with its outstanding well arranged and beautifully crafted kitchen with stainless steel features. Also on the ground floor is a separate TV/playroom, utility room and cloakroom. There are four excellent sized bedrooms, the master with en-suite bathroom, as well as a good sized family bathroom. The property has polished parquet flooring, gas fired central heating and delightful period features. Outside is a 75' rear garden and off street parking.

Energy Performance Rating - E

www.johnmartinestates.com



EALING W5

£950,000 FREEHOLD

A rare opportunity to acquire an impressively sized halls adjoining semi-detached purpose built four bedroom family home in the heart of Pitshanger Village which is in need of complete refurbishment and modernisation. The property currently has three separate reception rooms and kitchen, four bedrooms and bathroom with separate cloakroom. It also benefits from an array of period style features such as picture rails, coved ceilings and fireplaces and has potential to extend at the rear and into the loft space (subject to the usual planning consents). There is a 70' rear garden with side access. Viewing essential.

Energy Performance Rating - G

At Sworn and Co we are proud to be an independent, family-run business, providing a personal service with local knowledge.

With more than 136 years experience of the Chiswick market (and being one of the few Estate Agencies that are also Chartered Surveyors) we are able to give you truly honest and professional advice whether it is in regards to Sales, Lettings, Block and Estate Management, Lease Extensions and Renewals or Party Wall Awards.

Don't just take our word for it, here are some of our testimonials from happy customers and clients from the last few months...

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Mrs J B - Landlord Client

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“ We have worked with Sworn & Co over many years and have never regretted that decision. They have always been friendly, helpful and efficient, and we would not want to work with anyone else.

We are happy to recommend Sworn & Co as managing agents to other residential blocks whenever the occasion arises.”

Messrs J P & G C - Estate Management Client

“ Whenever I had to deal with Sworn they always were prompt and efficient in fixing the problems one might encounter in a Victorian building. I found them to be honest and fair and would recommend them.

Mr C M - Tenant

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“ There is no question in our minds that this long-established Firm of estate agents and chartered surveyors would always be trustworthy and discreet, loyal to its Clients and successful in its dealings with its customers.

We confidently recommend Sworn & Co for any property transaction, in the certainty that the outcome will be satisfactory to all parties concerned.”

Mr R M - Landlord and Survey Client

“ You're the first estate agent that I would consider sending a Christmas card to!

Mr M G - Tenant

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“ Having dealt with many Estate and management agents over the years I have seen the worst and best of the industry and I can wholeheartedly say that Sworn & Co are up there as the best.

Sales Client

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“ Now that everything is successfully completed today, we just wanted to say a heartfelt thank you for the way in which you have handled the whole sale. We well know from past experience how tricky property transactions can be, and this one has gone so smoothly because of your sound professional judgment and prompt handling at every stage...”

Mr & Mrs M - Sales Client

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£1516 PCM

A spacious and well maintained one double bedroom flat in Chaseley Drive Development.

- One double bedroom
- Open plan kitchen/living room
- Furnished
- 6 month tenancy only



Chaseley Drive, W4

£1516 PCM

A well presented, two bedroom flat in the Chaseley Drive estate, close to Gunnersbury Tube Station (District and Overground line).

- Two double bedrooms
- Large living room
- Separate modern kitchen
- Two bathrooms (one ensuite)



Rusthall Avenue, W4

£1581 PCM

A first floor two bedroom conversion flat in a period property located on this desirable road in Bedford Park.

- Two bedrooms
- Modern kitchen with dishwasher
- Period property
- Bedford Park location



Chiswick High Road, W4

£37,492 PA

A commercial unit available on the preferred northern side of the High Road. Currently has D1 (medical use), other uses considered.

- Approximately 1074 ft.²
- Excellent High Street location
- 15 year lease with five yearly reviews



Cranbrook Road, W4

£1950 PCM

A beautiful, two bedroom, split level apartment with galleried kitchen in the heart of Chiswick and moments from Turnham Green Station.

- Two double bedrooms
- Great entertaining space
- Central location
- Finished to a high standard



Thames Road W4

£22,308 PA

Ground floor office with two open plan rooms fitted out in a contemporary style, W.C. and a parking space in Strand on the Green area.

- Good location, prominent frontage
- Approximately 750 ft.²
- 5 year lease with annual RPI increases



BRENTFORD, TW8 £2,999,950 FREEHOLD

This impressive detached home is set on the edge of the Butts Conservation Area, often described as a hidden gem within Brentford. Totalling some 6800 sq ft (631 sq m) the house also boasts an indoor swimming pool, cinema room and sauna. EPC rating C.



KEW, TW9 £2,250,000 FREEHOLD

A delightful character family house with five double bedrooms, a 58' rear garden and off street parking located within a prestigious residential street in the heart of Kew. The property benefits from high ceilings and wooden floor boards throughout. Circa 2475 sq ft (230 sq m) EPC rating F.



RICHMOND, TW9 £1,850,000 FREEHOLD

A rare opportunity to acquire a family sized Victorian house of some 2200 sq ft (206 sq m) with a delightful garden of some 82' (25m), in need of full modernisation located within easy reach of local restaurants and shops as well as Richmond station giving fast access to Waterloo. EPC rating E.



KEW, TW9 £700,000 FREEHOLD

Well presented throughout this two bedroom cottage with delightful gardens offers a good feeling of light and character including working fireplaces and sash windows. The property also has potential to extend subject to any necessary permissions and consents. Circa 763 sq ft (71 sq m) EPC rating D.



RICHMOND HILL, TW10 £585,000 LEASEHOLD

A two bedroom apartment located on Richmond Hill with high ceilings, large windows and an allocated off street parking space. Situated on the first floor in a pretty Period property, within easy walking distance of Richmond town centre and the station. Circa 623 sq ft (58 sq m) EPC rating D.



KINGSTON, KT2 £385,000 LEASEHOLD

Located within easy reach of local shops in Ham, a renovated two bedroom ground floor flat located within the popular Royal Park Gate development with easy access to the River Thames, Richmond Park and Ham Common. Circa 543 sq ft (50 sq m) EPC rating D.

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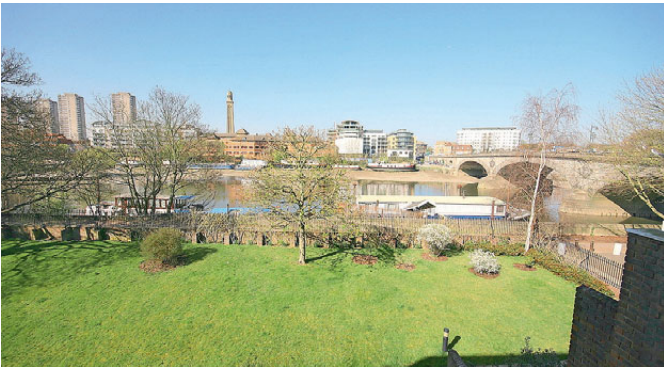
EAST TWICKENHAM, TW1 £7,500 PER CALENDAR MONTH

An outstanding large modern four bedroom townhouse offering fantastic views of the River Thames. Situated just over Richmond Bridge, this family home offers a very high standard of accommodation complete with oak flooring and a garage. Circa 2852 sq ft (265 sq m) EPC rating C



KEW RIVERSIDE, TW9 £4,000 PER CALENDAR MONTH

A three double bedroom duplex Riverside penthouse apartment offering a large double reception room that leads onto a balcony with beautiful river views. The apartment boasts three bathrooms underfloor heating and secure off street parking. Circa 1775 sq ft (165 sq m) EPC rating E



KEW, TW9 £3,995 PER CALENDAR MONTH

This well presented refurbished 3/4 Bedroom family house in an exclusive small development in Kew overlooking the River Thames benefits from use of a communal Tennis court and Gymnasium. With Off-Street Parking and a Garage. Circa 2378 sq ft (221 sq m) EPC rating C.



RICHMOND GREEN, TW9 £3,250 PER CALENDAR MONTH

With probably the best views over Little Green this first floor three bedroom, two reception room, 1930's apartment also has delightful communal gardens. Set within a gated development, with a garage, the centre of town and the station are within easy walking distance. Circa 904 sq ft (84 sq m) EPC rating D



RICHMOND, TW9 £2,700 PER CALENDAR MONTH

A well presented two/ three bedroom Victorian character house with a modern kitchen and bathrooms. To the rear there is a garden with a shed. Marshgate Primary school is within easy walking distance as is Richmond town centre. Circa 1039 sq ft (96 sq m) EPC rating E.



KEW RIVERSIDE, TW9 £2,700 PER CALENDAR MONTH

A stunning first floor high specification larger than average two double bedroom apartment with en suite shower room, dressing room, conservatory and eat-in kitchen located by the River Thames in Kew. There is also use on the on-site gym. Circa 1124 sq ft (104 sq m) EPC rating C.

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Welcome Home

Bishops Villas, Churchview Road, Twickenham

Located close to Twickenham Green is this spacious recently built property located in Churchview Road. The property has accommodation spread over 3 floors and comprises 3 spacious bedrooms, a decent size reception room, fitted kitchen and a secluded, decked rear garden.

EPC Rating C

Don't Miss Out

£719,950

Ref: 0381

- Modern Semi Detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Bathrooms
- Off Street Parking
- Close To Town Centre
- Double glazed



High Street Location Staten Gardens, Twickenham

New to the market is this beautifully presented Victorian end of terrace three bedroom family home located a hop, skip & a jump away from all of Twickenham's amenities including good transport links, boutique shops and local restaurants.

EPC Rating E

Call Now

£775,000

Ref: 0372

- Victorian End Terraced House
- Close to Town Centre
- Three Double Bedrooms
- Private Garden
- Minutes from Twickenham BR Station



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MY DREAM HOME

Why this detached home in Brentford is an entertainer's heaven



This magnificent five-bedroom house even has an indoor swimming pool

THE BUTTS, TW8



**David Bell, Director
Winkworth Richmond**

Why is this a great buy?

This detached double-fronted house has been

completely refurbished by the current owners, offering a blend of Victorian character and contemporary design throughout and totalling some 6,800 sq ft (637 sq m) of family sized accommodation. Off-street parking (with electric gates) for two cars will make moving in easier too and the location, a short drive from

Chiswick and Kew, is well suited for both the M4 and rail links to Waterloo (circa 30 minutes).

What gives it the wow factor?

Every room is magnificent and the master bedroom is not just large, but has the most wonderful en-suite bathroom with a walk-through rain shower as well as a roof terrace. If you entertain, then this is most definitely the house for you, with a large indoor pool, gym, cinema room and sauna.

Which is your favourite room?

It has to be the spacious and light kitchen/



dining room with three ovens, perfect for that budding chef. It's great for entertaining and looking after younger family members as it opens onto the garden.

Why should I buy it?

You will be hard pressed to match the space and design on offer and the same house ten minutes away in Chiswick will probably cost twice as much!

Asking Price £2,999,950

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RICHMOND

ASKING PRICE £1,500,000

Stunning five bedroom semi-detached family home on the Richmond/East Sheen borders boasting off street parking, a fabulous open plan kitchen/dining room to the rear leading, 2 further receptions, two bathrooms, downstairs w.c., utility room and a very good-sized west facing garden. EPC Rating D

Sold and similar properties urgently required.



EAST SHEEN

ASKING PRICE £1,350,000

Unique detached bungalow in a secluded position. Fabulous sitting room, fitted kitchen, reception hall, utility room, shower room, 3 bedrooms 2 with an en suite bathrooms. Rear garden 34'11 x 29'8. Also externally the house benefits from a further 105' garden with path and two sheds and there are further gardens extending to 110'. EPC Rating E

Sold and similar properties urgently required.

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Richmond OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £1,400,000

This beautifully refurbished Victorian Villa has a wonderful 80 ft garden. Providing the perfect arrangement for the modern family; with acoustic glass, a Mega-flo boiler and a large open plan kitchen/family room, this home retains period features such as fireplaces and stained glass.

- Victorian villa
- Potential to extend STPP
- Master en-suite with roll top bath
- Shower room
- Downstairs cloakroom
- Three double bedrooms
- Impressive dining/family room
- Kitchen with a Falcon cooker and separate pantry
- Front reception room
- Circa 80 ft garden with a vegetable patch



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We highly recommend Anissa and David to anyone needing the services of an estate agent. They provided the most professional, caring and supportive service our family has ever experienced when moving house. It was as stress free a sale as it was possible achieve. They have a strong, happy blend of professional expertise and friendliness that keeps all involved in the sale calm and confident. *Mrs Smith, Sheen Park*



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